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[JAMES HOLMES, TOOK'S COURT.]

REVIEWS

History and Description of Fossil Fuel, the Collieries and Coal Trade of Great Britain. By the Author of 'Treatise on Manufactures in Metal,' &c. Svo. Whittaker.

THIS is a valuable addition to what may be termed our commercial literature; the author has thoroughly investigated his subject in all its bearings, and has given the result of his labours in the form most likely to be generally useful. He has carefully avoided all scientific and mercantile technicalities, without running into the opposite extreme of loose and general description. It is not likely that the experienced geologist will learn anything new from the volume, respecting the nature of coal formations, or the merchant find in it any secrets of trade; neither will the colliers receive instructions from it in the art of mining; but the mass of the community will, we are of opinion, gladly receive this history of a substance so important to our national welfare and individual comfort. The work is indeed well calculated to gratify the general reader; but we may add, that it contains much that deserves and must receive the attention of the statesman and the man of science. A brief summary of its contents will show how well this high praise is merited.

In his first chapter the author briefly notices the properties and uses of fire, and the various substances that have been used for fuel. He then examines the portion of geological science connected with the coal formations, fairly stating the conflicting opinions of rival theorists, but abstaining from decisively pronouncing his own. The third chapter is devoted to turf, or peat, which some geologists have regarded as the actual commencement of the coal series, on account of the striking analogy between the depositions of some stratified turbaries and the coal formation. Having mentioned some common examples of this analogy, he adds one very important and little known.

"This analogy to the proper carboniferous strata, is still more strikingly exemplified by the well-known fact that some of these mosses contain metallic oxides in considerable quantity: bog iron-ore is not unknown to the smelter. It occurs in large rusty-looking masses, being deposited by the flowing of chalybeate water highly impregnated. Copper is likewise found in a similar state, particularly in the county of Cork, where the particles are so abundant that, in the year 1812, from a cuprififerous peat-bog, on the east side of Glendore harbour, forty or fifty tons of the dried peat produced, when burnt, one ton of ashes, containing from ten to fifteen per cent. of copper."

In our review of the Ordnance Survey of the county of Londonderry (see *Athenæum*, No. 410) we extracted Captain Portlock's succinct account of turf formations, and need not therefore now dwell upon the subject.

The fourth chapter contains the natural history of coal, in which we find many new proofs of its vegetable origin, and a very possible, if not a very probable account of the mode

of its formation. He then proceeds to examine the organic remains found in the coal-measures, illustrating the subject by wood engravings of the more curious and important fossils. The sixth chapter brings before us the geographical position of the principal coal beds in the British islands: those of Ireland are described from Mr. Griffith's reports; more recent researches have shown that he rather underrated the value of the beds on the left bank of the Blackwater and of those belonging to the Arigna mining company. In the seventh and eighth chapters, the stratification of the coal-measures, and the dislocations of the strata technically called "faults," are discussed with equal accuracy and simplicity. The advantages that really result from these "faults" are stated very clearly; but we pass over this part of the subject at present, because we shall soon be called to examine it in Professor Buckland's forthcoming *Bridge-water Treatise*.

The most novel part of the work, the description of mining operations, commences in the ninth chapter. The processes of boring to discover the nature of the strata, and sinking the pits for actual working, are very clearly explained. An interesting account of the shaft at Monkwearmouth Colliery, near Sunderland, as mentioned some time since in the *Athenæum* (see No. 370), though not yet completed, is already deeper than any mine in Great Britain, or, reckoning from the level of the sea, than any in the world.

Not less remarkable is the magnitude of some of the adits or water-courses for draining the mines.

"Since the application of steam power in its most efficient forms, some gigantic undertakings for carrying off the water by day levels have been completed: the Cornish adit, for example, which drains about fifty mines, extending its ramifications about 26,000 fathoms, or nearly thirty miles, is a prodigious work of this kind: it empties itself into the sea at Falmouth harbour. The adit of the Duke of Bridgewater's collieries at Worsley is about thirty miles long, and navigable for barges used in the extraction and transit of the coals."

Passing over the description of the machinery and underground works, we come to the important subject of ventilation. It is unfortunately too well known, that when the atmospheric air has been allowed for some days to pass lazily through a mine, the fatal fire-damp accumulates, until it is accidentally ignited by the candle of an incautious workman, when it explodes and spreads destruction around. Nor is this the only result—

"All the stoppings and trap-doors of the mine being blown down by the violence of the concussion, and the atmospheric current being for a short time entirely excluded from the workings, those individuals that survive the discharge of the fire-damp are often instantly suffocated by the *after-damp*, which immediately fills up the vacuum caused by the explosion. This deleterious vapour is called *choke-damp*, and *surfeit*, by the colliers, and is the carbonic acid of chemists. While the mine is at work,

it lies sluggishly upon its floor, and suffers the atmospheric air, as a lighter fluid, to swim upon it; fire-damp, being the lightest of the three, floats upon the atmospheric air, and thereby occupies a space, according to its present quantity, nearest the roof of the mine."

We fear that too many of these explosions must be attributed to the neglect of the workmen; familiarity with danger begets an apathy, which would scarcely be credited were it not exhibited daily before our eyes.

"Perhaps nothing tends to give a stronger or more impressive idea of the terrible proximity to danger in which the pitman pursues his labour, than the manner in which the carburetted hydrogen is evolved above ground at one or two of the Newcastle pits, and was formerly the case also at Workington and Whitehaven. Not far from Wallsend church, a four inch pipe connected at the pit bottom with an insulated portion of coal strata extending about four acres, is carried up as high as the head gear: from the orifice of this tube there constantly issues an ignited stream of gas forming a flag of flame, at least eight or nine feet in length. At night—and indeed during the day—this is conspicuous to a considerable distance; and on approaching the spot, such is the force with which the inflammable vapour is emitted, that it produces a sound like the roaring of a blast furnace. The immense natural gasometer in which this tremendous agent is collected, supplies the flame at the rate of eleven hogsheads per minute! There is a similar emission at Willington colliery—the discharge is most vehement when the wind blows from the south-east.

Mr. Lyell informs us that ten times as much gas is evolved annually by this pipe as is used in illuminating the large town of Sheffield. Surely, as the same eminent geologist elsewhere observes, "it appears very remarkable that in the coal districts of the British isles, where such a large mass of carburetted hydrogen is annually produced, means have not been adopted for making an economical use of this gas, both as respects light and heat."

The thirteenth chapter introduces us to the painful consideration of the accidents to which the colliers are exposed. Besides the fire-damp already noticed, they have to dread the falling in of the roof, and still more, the sudden irruption of water.

Fires sometimes occur spontaneously in mines from various causes, but especially from the decomposition of iron pyrites, when brought into contact with moisture. The most singular instance of such combustion is recorded in a number of the *Stirling Journal* for 1830.

"It is now more than two years since the snow lying on a field on the farm of Shaw Park, belonging to the Earl of Mansfield, was observed to melt almost as soon as it fell, and then rise in a state of vapour. The phenomenon attracted the attention of the managers of the Alloa and Devon collieries, and was found to be the effect of the heat produced by a stratum of coal in a state of ignition, technically known by the name of the nine feet seam, from which the Devon ironworks are supplied with a large proportion of their fuel. Various

plans were, at the same time, suggested to extinguish the flames, and after several failures it was determined to cut a mine round the seam to prevent their extension. Workmen were set to excavate this mine, which was opened at both sides of the seam, to build a wall as they proceeded, on the sides of the two tunnels next the fire. In this way it was intended to proceed, till the tunnels penetrated beyond the fire, when they were to be joined in the form of a horse-shoe, and thus cut off, by means of a strong wall, all connexion between the ignited part of the seam and the remainder of it. This plan has been persevered in for a year and a half, but has never been completed. The workmen have often brought two walls within a few fathoms of meeting, but owing to the fire bursting in upon them, they have been hitherto obliged to fall back again and take a wider circle. Six or seven shafts have been sunk to ventilate the tunnels, in which the heat is frequently so great as to raise the thermometer from 212 to 230 deg. Fahrenheit; it sometimes rises even higher. The lamps of the miners, which are hung upon the walls, have more than once fallen to pieces from extreme heat."

Several instances of similar combustion have taken place in the coal heaps at the mouths of the pits, in the coal vessels, both before they left the Tyne and when at sea, and even in large stores. The explosions of fire-damp are, however, the most formidable dangers to which the miners are exposed; some awful examples of their destructive violence are recorded, and form an appropriate introduction to the history of the safety-lamp. A very curious chapter treats of the social and intellectual character of the colliers; the following instances are proofs that even the labour of the mines cannot prevent the development of talent:—

"The late celebrated Doctor Hutton was originally a hewer employed in Old Long Benton Colliery; that Mr. Stephenson, the intelligent engineer of the Liverpool and Manchester railway, was originally a coal miner; that the late Rev. W. Huntingdon, an eccentric but talented preacher in the metropolis, was a coal-heaver; and even that the late 'king of the conjurors' as the ingenious Ingelby was called, was a pitman, who first practised sleight of hand among his companions on the banks of the Tyne. Thomas Bewick too, 'the celebrated xylographer and illustrator of nature,' may be mentioned as another instance. His father was a collier in the neighbourhood of Hexham; and Thomas with his brothers, one of whom died after giving promise of high excellence in the beautiful art of wood engraving—'was early immured in that subterranean, laborious, and loathsome employment. I have heard him say,' remarks his friend Mr. Dovaston, 'that the remotest recollection of his powerful and tenacious memory was that of lying for hours on his side between dismal strata of coal, by a glimmering and dirty candle, plying the pick with his little hands—those hands afterwards destined to elevate the arts, illustrate nature, and promulgate her truths, to the delight and instruction of the moral and intellectual world.'"

Combinations are now rare among the pitmen; the celebrated "stick" at Newcastle-upon-Tyne in 1832 brought so much misery on the unfortunate labourers, from which indeed they have not yet wholly recovered, that there is little likelihood of a repetition.

The chapters on the varieties of coal and the nature of the coal trade are very well arranged, but they could not be examined without extending this article to a disproportionate length. The same may be said of the conversion and products of coal; but we

must say a few words on the consumption and waste of coal, and the probable duration of the mines. The waste of coals is carried to an enormous extent.

"A lamentable waste of excellent coal takes place in the South Welsh, and more particularly in the northern collieries, at the pit mouth, in consequence of the practice of screening, described in a former chapter. This is done to meet the taste for round coals so generally prevalent in the metropolis, and also to meet the circumstances of a demand which, before the trade imposts were reduced, and weight substituted for measure, required the coals to be shipped of a large size, however they might be comminuted before reaching the consumer's cellar. In 1829, Mr. Buddle stated before a committee of the House of Commons, that, taking the small coal which was not worth bringing to bank, and that which was produced in rendering the remainder merchantable together, the waste was from one-fourth to one-third of the whole. Of this amount, a trifling proportion is used by the colliers, who have grates adapted for burning it, and a little is sold, at about one-tenth of the price of the screened coal: the remainder is carted away to mend the roads; or, as a more ready method of getting rid of it, is consumed near the spot where it has been produced: at one colliery as many as from ninety to one hundred chaldrons a day have been destroyed."

From the evidence given before the House of Commons it seems improbable that the beds of British coal can be exhausted for several centuries; but it is not at all improbable that in a much shorter space of time the exhaustion of the Northern mines will transfer the trade to Scotland and South Wales. There is, however, very little known with certainty on the subject, but it is understood that Professor Sedgwick has undertaken a very extensive examination of all the British coal-measures, and that the result will soon be communicated to the public.

The work concludes with an account of the foreign coal trade, and rather a meagre description of foreign coal deposits. Within the last few days intelligence has been received from Bombay, from which it appears that the coal measures in Cutch are superior both in quantity and quality to the first representations of them transmitted to Europe.

We now take our leave of this volume, suggesting to the author that in his second edition it would be of advantage if he were to devote a chapter to the consumption of coal in locomotive engines and steam navigation.

A Journey to St. Petersburg and Moscow.

By Leitch Ritchie, Esq.; with Twenty-five Engravings, after Drawings by A. G. Vickers, Esq. Longman.

This is a very pleasant volume. It ought, perhaps, under its general title of the 'The Picturesque Annual,' to be stowed away, in brief space, in another part of our paper; but there is so much in it that is instructive and interesting, that, without denying its merit or its beauty as a drawing-room table-book, we feel justified in raising it to the dignity of a literary work. Of the illustrations, therefore, we shall say briefly and generally, they are clever and characteristic, but not very vigorous.

Mr. Ritchie entered Russia through Prussia, and merely visited St. Petersburg and Moscow; but, with the skill of experience, he has given us many clever sketches of life and

manners, that bring the scenes vividly before the reader. Thus, soon after entering Courland, we have indications of change.

"At the inn where we dined this day the room was hung with living ivy, festooned with great regularity. It grew in little pots placed on the sills of the numerous windows. Having desired to taste at dinner some London porter of which the hostess boasted, it was set before me with sugar and a spoon; and, seeing me reject these appendages, the good woman lingered in the room with evident curiosity to watch how the nasty foreigner could otherwise swallow such a potion. This mode of serving English porter I afterwards found to be customary even in the larger towns.

"The scenery now improved every step we advanced till it became absolutely picturesque, exhibiting all the varieties of hill and valley, wood and lake, with here and there patches of cultivated ground. At every house we passed there was one unfailling appendage—a swing; and the peasantry might be correctly described as being divided into two classes, those who were swinging, and those who were waiting for a swing. I observed a mother passing by with her child at her breast eye longingly the tempting apparatus. At that moment the seat became vacant, and, giving the baby to another to hold, she ran to indulge herself in a swing. The girl who waited at dinner, when standing by the window, saw the swing unoccupied; and, pretending to be called, immediately left the room. I saw her dart across the road, and into the swing; and, when she had made three or four aerial courses, she came back satisfied. The men swing standing upon the seat, sometimes several at a time; the women in a sitting posture.

"This machine is occasionally made of hewn wood, in the form of a gallows; but, in general, it consists of a branch of a tree fastened transversely between two pines near the top, with two slender trees hanging down from it instead of ropes, connected at the bottom by what serves for the seat. Neither hemp nor iron enters into the construction, the fastenings being all of tough roots and lichens."

Our next extract will give an account of a Livonian wedding.

"The house of the bride is surmounted by a huge plume of feathers, ribbons, and rags, of every form and hue, and her door is arched round with branches and flowers. At two o'clock on Sunday morning, she hears a knock at that door, and feels as if it had been struck upon her heart. She does not answer—transmitted custom forbids!—and the comers are obliged to bribe the family to disclose her retreat. These are the friends selected to conduct the ceremony, and who are under the obligation to defray every expense preliminary to the moment of union.

"The hours are spent in drinking till it is time to go to church; when a relation of the bride gives the signal for starting by taking down the plume from the roof, and mounting with it on horseback. In this state he leads the procession, and the destined fair one follows, with her female friends, in a carriage borrowed for the occasion. The bride is usually dressed like a French lady; for her mistress would be very austere indeed, if, on so interesting an occasion, she refused the loan of almost any part of her wardrobe. The cavalcade visits the lord of the land, and other rich neighbours, to all of whom the virgin offers a pair of gloves, stockings, or garters, receiving in return a present of money. When passing the bridge of the town or village in which the church is situated, she throws a pair of garters among the crowd; and lucky is that individual who, in the general scramble which ensues, obtains possession of the prize. After the marriage ceremony is performed in the usual way, the procession returns in the same

order, celebrating the event by shouting and firing pistols. The whole party then repair to the bridegroom's house; and both sexes sit down to a feast, from which they rarely think of rising till mid-day on Monday."

Mr. Ritchie works out his general description of St. Petersburg, by contrasting it with London and Venice.

"No analogy taken from London can convey an idea of the—grandeur, I may venture to say, presented by the vistas opening from the main street. Here there are no lanes, no alleys, no *impasses*, no nestling-places constructed of filth and rubbish for the poor. These lateral streets are all parts of the main street, only diverging at right angles. The houses are the same in form and colour; they appear to be inhabited by the same classes of society; and the view is terminated, ever and anon by domes and spires. The whole, in short, is one splendid picture, various in its forms, but consistent in its character."

"Such were my first impressions."

"St. Petersburg is a picture rather than a reality—grand, beautiful, and noble, at a little distance, but nothing more than a surface of paint and varnish when you look closer. Or, rather, to amend the comparison, it is like the scene of a theatre, which you must not by any means look behind, if you would not destroy the illusion."

"London does not lose but gain by inspection; although on inspection it is found to be an enormous heap of dirty, paltry, miserable brick houses, which, but for the constant repairs of the inhabitants, would in a few years become a mass of such pitiful ruins as the owls themselves would disdain to inhabit. Those narrow, winding, dingy streets—those endless lines of brick boxes, without taste, without beauty, without dignity, without anything that belongs to architecture, inspire us with growing wonder and admiration. The genius, the industry, the commerce, of a whole continent seem concentrated in this single spot; and the effect is uninterrupted by any of the lighter arts that serve as the mere ornaments and amusements of life. An earnestness of purpose is the predominating character of the scene—a force of determination which seizes, and fixes, and grapples with a single specific object, to the exclusion of every other. The pursuit of wealth acquires a character of sublimity as we gaze; and Mammon rises in majesty from the very deformity of the stupendous temple of commonplace in which he is worshipped."

"Venice does not lose but gain by inspection; although on inspection it is found to be but the outlines of a great city, filled up with meanness, and dirt, and famine. We enter her ruined palaces with a catching of the breath, and a trembling of the heart; and when we see her inhabitants crouching in rags and hunger in their marble halls, we do but breathe the harder, and tremble the more. The effect is increased by the contrast; for Venice is a tale of the past, a city of the dead. The Rialto is still crowded with the shapes of history and romance; the Giant's Steps still echo to the ducal tread; and, mingling with the slaves and wantons who meet on the Sunday evenings to laugh at the rattle of their chains in the Piazza di San Marco, we see gliding, scornful and sad, the merchant-kings of the Adriatic."

"St. Petersburg, on the other hand, has no moral character to give dignity to common-place, or haunt tombs and ruins like a spirit. It is a city of imitation, constructed, in our own day, on what were thought to be the best models; and hence the severity with which its public buildings have been criticised by all travellers, except those who dote upon gilding and green paint, and are enthusiasts in plaster and white-wash. As a picture of a city, notwithstanding, superficially viewed—an idea of a great congregating place of the human kind, without reference to

national character, or history, or individuality of any kind—St. Petersburg, in my opinion, is absolutely unrivalled."

Mr. Ritchie appears to be a little in love with Nicholas, and in good humour with despotism. We believe that as a man—as a husband and father, the Emperor is worthy of all admiration; but there is nothing in the following anecdote to reconcile us to his government.

"The police of Moscow is very efficient; but, as is the case in all the executive departments of the law throughout the country, is very unequal and capricious in its operation. I happened to become acquainted with a curious case of absurd severity. At a time when incendiarism was frequent in the city, a servant-girl found in the street a letter in which a neighbour was threatened with having his house burned down that very night. She instantly flew to the devoted family to give the alarm; and, after relating the story to her master, went to bed in a state of dreadful agitation. In the middle of a cold and stormy night, she was taken out of bed by the police, having only time to snatch up a petticoat and wrap it round her shoulders; she was dragged to the office, and, without a word of examination, knouted severely; and then thrust into prison, where she was kept for two days without food! Her crime was having warned the intended victims, instead of carrying the letter to the police; and, having been delivered of a child only a day or two before, her death from exhaustion would, in all probability, have been the consequence, had she not purchased from one of the men, for an eighty kopek piece, a small morsel of black bread."

Nor are the laws relating to the press more to our taste.

"The censorship is no doubt a serious weight upon the literature of the country; and it seems to me to be the most inefficient, as well as the most odious of all the measures of arbitrary power. Against what class of society is this prohibition directed? The lower classes either cannot or do not read; and is there any officer of government so profoundly ignorant as not to know, that any individual of the upper classes may obtain with perfect facility any prohibited work whatever? For my part I read nothing but prohibited books all the time I was in Russia."

"I cannot help thinking that the Emperor is ignorant of the ridiculous excess to which the censorship is carried. Even bygone matters of historical notoriety must be slurred over or distorted into falsehood. Murder must be called natural death; or the book shall appear to the public with a gap as wide and ominous as the gash of the assassin's knife. Who would not laugh to think that the light page which I am now writing—in spite of the comparatively favourable view of the country which a regard for truth and reason has compelled me to take—will be cut out, before the Picturesque Annual is allowed to circulate in Russia!"

Mr. Ritchie has collected together some curious statistical facts relating to St. Petersburg. The total population, according to the census of 1832, was 449,368, divided as follows:—

Clergy	2,188
Nobility	34,079
Soldiers	39,437
Merchants	10,833
Bourgeois	36,725
Inscribed in Corps de Métiers....	27,279
Domestics	94,009
People of all trades.....	66,366
Peasants	127,867
Strangers	7,199
Inhabitants of the suburb of Okhta	3,386
	449,368

"The distribution of the sexes is the most extraordinary feature in this mass of population. In the above grand total there are 294,468 men and only 154,900 women!—a discrepancy which merits explanation."

"Of the hundred and twenty-seven thousand peasants, there are from fifty to sixty thousand who reside only a part of the year in the city. These are the *mujiks* from the interior, who travel many hundred versts to seek employment for the spring and summer, leaving their wives at home to manage their little farms. * * This is one cause of the deficiency in the female population. Another is, that, of the remainder of the peasantry—the ninety-four thousand domestics—and the sixty-six thousand trades-people or artificers resident in the city, a very considerable number have left their families at a distance, and only visit them on a rare occasion. In addition to these causes, it may be mentioned that the high clergy are all unmarried, being monks, and that a very great proportion of the nobility are employes of the government, and others, who flock to the metropolis in quest of fortune before they think of looking out for a wife."

"As for the great and steady increase of the population, this must be attributed, firstly, to the number of workmen, who, tired of their migrations, and perhaps deprived by death of the charm of that ark to which they were accustomed to return, sit down every year as residents in the city; and, secondly, to the colonies of natives and foreigners attracted by the policy of the emperors to the capital. It is necessary to look for the increase in these causes alone; for, startling as the fact may appear, the population does not increase of itself."

"From 1770 to 1790, which is reckoned a favourable period, the difference between births and deaths was only 3630, while the increase in the number of inhabitants for the same period was 20,000. In the first ten years of the present century there were born 41,887 boys and 39,223 girls, while there died 68,082 males and 37,372 females, leaving on the side of mortality a balance of 26,344 individuals. In this period the population was increased by 65,000. In 1832 the births were 10,167, and the deaths 15,197—a difference of 5,720 in one year."

"From all this one would imagine the city to be frightfully unhealthy; and even M. Bachoutsky, to whom I am indebted for many details which a stranger could not readily come at, seeks to explain a part of the mystery by the suicidal stays, bands, &c. of the women of quality. These women, however, form so trifling a portion of the population, that if they were all to die together, the loss would hardly be perceived by the statistician. The cause must be sought for in the preceding paragraphs, where it is clearly explained. The balance in favour of mortality is owing to the vast numbers of males, either resident or migratory, who, without having added to the births, lay their bones every year in the cemeteries of St. Petersburg."

"To take, for example, the first ten years of the present century, in which there were born 39,223 girls and 41,887 boys, we find the deaths 37,372 females and sixty-eight thousand males. If you make the number of male deaths correspond in the usual ratio with that of the female deaths, you leave the natural surplus in favour of the increase of human life."

"The births here are as one to fifty-two of the population; while in Paris they are as one to thirty-one; but taking the above circumstances into account, the balance is in favour of St. Petersburg rather than otherwise."

"For the last few years the average number of women compared with that of men is as forty-five to a hundred; but unhappily the marriages do not take place even in proportion. From 1811 to 1821 the number was one to every 200 inhabitants; but this has gone on diminishing

until it is now one to 340! Suicides bear a proportion of one to 20,360, which is pretty nearly the same as in Paris."

Here we must conclude for the present. Next week we shall collect together some few particulars relating to Moscow.

The History of the Turks—[*Histoire de l'Empire Ottoman*, par J. de Hammer, traduit de l'Allemand sur les notes et sous la direction de l'Auteur, par J. J. Hellert.] Vols. I. & II. Bossange, Barthès, and Lowell.

This translation has no small pretensions to be regarded as an original work; executed under the superintendence of its illustrious author, errors have been corrected, obscurities elucidated, and new facts introduced from sources of information opened to Von Hammer subsequent to the publication of the German original. Thirty years were devoted to collecting materials for this history: every important library in Europe was visited; oriental manuscripts were sought in the bazaars of Cairo, Aleppo, Bagdad, and Constantinople, the archives of Venice and Vienna were investigated, and not a line was written until a library had been collected of greater rarity and value than probably had ever before been procured by the unaided exertions of an enthusiastic scholar. To dwell upon the use that Von Hammer has made of these materials is now superfluous; the unanimous voice of the learned throughout Europe has spoken to the merit of this history: instead therefore of a formal criticism, we shall give such a summary of the contents of these volumes as may serve as an introduction to the historical student, and a convenient summary for those whom the extent and price of the work must deter from its perusal. Such an outline of Turkish history will, we trust, prove to our readers a useful and agreeable preface to the original review of Turkish Literature, by the illustrious author of these volumes, which we shall commence next week.

There is something singular in the Turkish name; it has been given to nations and tribes that had no claim to such a designation, and spurned by those to whom it belonged by inheritance. As our researches are confined to one branch of the undoubted Turkish race, it is unnecessary for us to encumber ourselves with discussing the genealogy of barbarous nations; especially as there is enough of certain history to occupy our attention without wandering into conjecture.

Von Hammer says, that the Turks were known by name to Pliny, Pomponius Mela, and even to Herodotus; but the late Mr. Saint Martin, in his memoirs on Armenia, has shown that this opinion rests on faulty conjectural readings, and that the people spoken of by these writers were the Irci, an obscure Scythian tribe. † The name of Turks was not known in Europe before the reign of Justinian, when they descended from the Altaian mountains, spread themselves over the vast and fertile steppes of Upper Asia, now called Turkestan, and extended their empire to the Oxus and the Caspian. Brought thus into immediate contact with the Persian dominions, the Turks excited great interest

in the rival courts of Ctesiphon and Constantinople; their alliance was eagerly sought by both, but they were generally to be found on the side of the Greeks, for peace with Persia would have put an end to their plundering expeditions.

The establishment of the Saracenic empire presented to the Turks enemies as bold and daring as themselves, while at the same time they were cut off from communication with their European allies. Many of them enlisted under the banners of the Khaliph; and receiving merited encouragement, they invited their brethren from the desert to join them, so that in process of time the Saracenic armies were almost wholly composed of Turks. The process of their conversion to the Moslem faith was slow at first; nearly four centuries had elapsed from the preaching of Islâm, before any great chief of the people now most attached to that creed had resigned paganism. Salûr, the first convert, called his tribe Turk-imâm (Turks of the faith), to distinguish them from their brethren who continued in heathenism, a name since corrupted to Turcomans. This change of creed, once commenced, went on rapidly, especially when the Khaliphs, enervated by luxury, invited Turkish leaders to be "viceroys over them," and invested these ministers with the title of Emîr-al-Omrâ (Commander of commanders), and the supreme military authority.

Oriental history, a little before the commencement of the First Crusade, presents the singular spectacle of a monarchy established in an empire. The Seljukian Turk had a ministerial and a sovereign title; he was a servant and a Sultan, but the former bound him to no obedience, and in the latter capacity he held possession, not merely of the power, but of the treasures of the Khaliph. The haughty members of the imperial house of Abbas had often to beg from these "viceroys," whom they affected to call their slaves, an allowance, not only to maintain the shadow of their dignity, but even to support nature.

The Seljukian dominion clung to the Khaliphate like those parasitical plants of Africa, that twine round a lofty palm, hide its nakedness under their own exuberant foliage, but at the same time destroy the sources of its life. Rotten at the core, but flourishing to the eye, the trunk stands fixed by its own weight, until the tempest comes, when its headlong fall spreads a waste of ruin around. Such a storm as the political world had never yet seen, suddenly burst forth from north-eastern Asia; the Moguls, the most ferocious race of conquerors that had ever been sent as a scourge to mankind, in an incredibly short space of time became masters of all the countries between the Mediterranean and the Pacific Ocean, subverting almost without an effort the ancient empire of China, the Khaliphate, the kingdoms of Kharasm, Ghazni, and Persia, the principalities of Armenia and Georgia, and the provinces of Russia. A small wandering tribe of Turks, driven forward by the Mongolian invaders, sought refuge in Armenia, but, after seven years of exile, seized what they deemed a favourable opportunity of returning to their ancient possessions. While fording the Euphrates the leader of the Turks was drowned, and the tribe was divided into four by his sons. Ertoghul, the warlike leader of one division, resolved to return into Asia Minor; the sultanies into which the Selju-

kian kingdom had been divided, were harassing each other with mutual war, and could not be persuaded to combine against either the Moguls or the Crusaders, and consequently a band of adventurous warriors might well entertain hopes of rising to fame and fortune in such a distracted country. While Ertoghul was on his march, he met two armies engaged in deadly combat, and immediately took the chivalrous resolution of joining the weaker party. His unexpected aid changed the fortune of the day, and he was rewarded by the conqueror, who proved to be the chief of the Seljukians, with a gift of a mountainous district, forming the frontiers of ancient Phrygia and Bithynia.

Othman, or Othoman, the son of Ertoghul, born A.D. 1258, succeeded to the command of his tribe at an early age. He was fortunate in obtaining the friendship of a young Greek noble, who embraced Islamism to please him, and instructed him in the art of government. From this renegade descended the family of Mikhal-agli, ‡ which so often appears conspicuous in Turkish history. To the information obtained from this Greek, Othman probably owed his superiority over his Seljukian rivals, and was enabled to found the Ottoman dynasty which has now endured more than five centuries; but the Turkish historians, with the true oriental taste, cannot be satisfied with so simple an explanation, and they attribute all his success to a dream. * This celebrated vision, which every Turk learns by rote from his childhood, possesses too much historical importance to be omitted. It is only necessary to premise that Othman was at the time visiting a scheikh named Edeballi, with whose daughter he was in love, but had been unable to gain the scheikh's consent.

He dreamed that he was reposing on the same couch as his host. Suddenly the moon seemed to emerge from Edeballi's bosom, and, after having attained wondrous size and splendour, to enter his own breast. Instantly there sprang from his loins an immense tree rapidly acquiring fresh size and foliage, until its spreading branches shaded Europe, Asia, and Africa. Beneath this tree the mountains of Caucasus, Atlas, Taurus, and Hiemus, raised their snowy summits, and seemed to be the four columns that supported this leafy tent. From the roots of the tree sprang the Tigris, the Euphrates, the Nile, and the Danube, whose waters were almost hidden by forests of masts. Yellow harvests covered the plains, waving woods crowned the hills and mountains, countless rivulets meandered through groves and gardens. Through the vistas of the valleys were seen cities, adorned with domes, cupolas, towers, obelisks, and columns. The crescent gleamed on every spire, and from every minaret was heard the voice of the Muezzin summoning the faithful to prayer; the sound mingling with the notes of countless nightingales, and the chattering of millions of parrots, whose gay plumage exhibited all the colours of the rainbow. These birds sported gaily through the immense mass of foliage, and seemed not to fear the leaves, though they were long, pointed, and glittering like sabres. Suddenly a wind arose, and directed the points of all these sabre-like leaves towards the principal cities of the universe, but especially towards Constantinople, which, placed at the junction of two seas and two continents, resembled a noble diamond set between two sapphire stones and two emeralds, forming the pre-

‡ Sons of Michael.

* The same superstition is curiously shown in Timur's autobiography; he records his dreams far more minutely than his conquests.

† It is singular that Malte-Brun should, like Von Hammer, give currency to an error long ago decisively refuted.

cious jewel of the ring of a vast dominion that circled the entire world: a ring destined to grace the finger of Othman as soon as he woke.

A century and a half elapsed between this dream and its fulfilment. Another century and a half saw the Ottoman empire towering in its pride of place; but at the end of that time a second vision became necessary to predict a sad change, and now neither dream nor vision is wanting to foreshadow, that the house of Othman is hurrying to the fate of the houses of Abbas, Seljuk, Jenghiz, and Timür.

Othman's dream, according to the general belief of the orientals, led his grandson to attempt establishing the Turkish dominion in Europe. The singular tradition in which this is described, illustrates the imaginative character of the Turkish writers, and throws no small light on the dominant feelings of the nation.

Soliman Pacha, the grandson of Othman, was appointed governor of the newly acquired province of Mysia. The most celebrated spot in that country was that where once the ancient and opulent city of Cyzicus flourished. "Its broken columns, its marbles scattered over the turf, reminded the spectator of the wondrous palaces, that the evil geni at the command of Solomon had raised for Balkis, queen of Sheba, of the wondrous remains of Istakhar † and Tadmor. ‡" Soliman Pacha was filled with admiration by the view of these wondrous fragments, and he loved to meditate on the ruins that covered the little peninsula, where once "the Tyre of the Propontis" stood.

One evening as he sat wrapped in contemplation by the sea shore, he beheld the pillars and porticoes reflected by the light of the moon in the tranquil waves of the sea of Marmora; while the light clouds that flitted over the sky seemed also to float over the water. It appeared to him as if the restored city was emerging from the sea in its former beauty, and girdled by its ancient fleet. Mysterious voices seemed borne to his ear by the whispering winds and murmuring waves; whilst the moon beaming from the east, seemed to unite Europe and Asia by a zone of silver. The planet wore the same appearance as when it rose from the bosom of Edehali to enter the breast of Othman. The remembrance of his grandsire's vision, which had predicted universal empire, inflamed the courage of Soliman, and made him instantly resolve to remove his seat of government from Asia Minor into Europe.

Soliman died before he could accomplish his purpose, but his brother Morad or Amurath I., steadily pursued the same object, and finally made Adrianople the capital of the Ottoman empire.

Bayezid Ilderim, * the Bajazet of the English stage, was the first Turkish leader who besieged Constantinople. His pride, his cruelty, and his bravery are known to most readers of history or romance. Southern Greece, the provinces along the Danube, and the western districts of ancient Thrace were easily subdued, the empire of Constantinople was bounded by the walls of its city, and this would have fallen had not Bayezid's attention been directed to Asia, by the rapid successes of a conqueror more savage than himself.

Timür Lenk, (that is to say, lame Timur,) was the son of a Jagatay Turk, who ruled a

horde nominally submissive to the descendants of Jenghiz. His amazing strength in infancy procured him the name of Timür, which signifies "iron;" while yet a youth, he undertook to liberate his country from the Tartar yoke, but at the same time, aware of the high value placed upon illustrious birth, he pretended to be descended from Jenghiz, and on this account he is sometimes called Timür the Tartar, and the emperors of Delhi, his descendants, have been named the Great Moguls. He was as indefatigable a student as he was a warrior. His life, written by himself, a portion of which has been published by the Oriental Translation Committee, shows that he was deeply read in the Korán, the authorized traditions, the general literature of Persia, and the old Mongolian laws. It is chiefly on account of his literary acquirements that he is such a favourite with oriental historians; he knew, they say, "how to rule the world he had subdued." His empire was rapidly extended from the Wall of China to the Mediterranean Sea; India in the south, and Russia in the north, acknowledged his sway; and his determination to wrest Syria and Asia Minor from the Turks, induced Bayezid to abandon the siege of Constantinople. Before he could reach the scene of action, Sirvas § had fallen, and the bravest warriors of the garrison had been buried alive by the ferocious victor. Damascus soon after shared the same fate, it was laid waste by fire and sword, until a single tower alone remained to show the spot that had once been a city.

Bayezid met Timür in the memorable plains of Angora, and was defeated, with the loss of his whole army and his liberty. We have already, in our review of Von Hammer's translation of Evliya Effendi, || described the results of this battle, and examined the grounds on which the tradition rests of Bayezid's confinement in the iron cage.

After a long fratricidal war, Mohammed I., the youngest of the sons of Bayezid, inherited his father's dominions; the power of Timür was lost in western Asia, as rapidly as it had been gained, and, ere a quarter of a century had elapsed, the Ottoman power was restored to its former strength.

Morad II. was regarded as a superior lord by the last Grecian emperors, and he in turn accorded them protection. In his reign appeared the great champions of Christendom, Hunniades, and George Castriot, better known by the name of Scanderbeg. The history of their exploits recorded by Von Hammer, unites the interest of a chivalrous romance to the political wisdom derived from the contemplation of valour frustrated by folly.

Mohammed II. from the moment of his accession devoted all his energies to the capture of Constantinople; and the records of the world do not supply a scene more strange in its vicissitudes, more affecting in its details, or more important in its results, than the last siege of that celebrated city. We can only notice a few of the less known particulars. As when Titus beleaguered Jerusalem, so when Mohammed appeared before Byzantium, pretended prophecies flew from mouth to mouth, announcing woe and destruction. The Golden gate was described by some, as

that through which the Turks should enter, another and more correct presage, described the gate of Cercoporta as that which should open a passage to the enemy. An old man was said to have declared to Hunniades, as he wept for his defeat at Kossova, "The calamities of Christendom shall not cease until the Greeks are exterminated. The fall of Constantinople must precede the triumphs of the cross."

While these and similar presages daunted the besieged, and prepared the way for the catastrophe they announced, prophecies of promised triumph were circulated through the Turkish camp; the dream of Othman was recited in every tent; traditions of the Prophet were found or invented, declaring that Constantinople should be the capital; and Ayúb the standard-bearer of the first Khaliph, who had fallen when the city was besieged by the Arabs eight centuries before, appeared in a dream to a pious sheikh, and revealed the spot where he had been buried. The invention of Ayúb's sepulchre, to use an old and felicitous blunder, ‡ was as useful as that of the Holy Lance at the siege of Antioch.

We shall not dwell on the account of the siege and assault, except to vindicate the memory of a brave man. Von Hammer completely clears the character of John Justiniani from the charges of cowardice, so earnestly urged by Gibbon; the Turks, as Ducas, who was present, declares, first entered through the gate Cercoporta, and not through the breach that the Genoese defended.

The two volumes now published bring the history down to the capture of Constantinople. Great as is their value, they must yield in interest and importance to the forthcoming volumes, which will contain the history of the Turkish empire, during the period of its greatest prosperity.

We understand that an English abridgment of this History is in preparation, which will be revised by Von Hammer himself.

THE ANNUALS FOR 1836.

The Amulet.—" 'Tis true, 'tis pity," but if our favourites show symptoms of time and change, we cannot shut our eyes for ever, though we may refuse to notice the first wrinkle or sprinkling of grey hairs. The Amulet then, is not what it has been: its illustrations are less carefully selected, and its letter-press is rather insipid. Can it be the intention of the proprietors to let it pass quietly into oblivion, lingering on for a year or two on its past reputation?

The frontispiece to the present volume is 'The Chapeau Noir,' a stately lady in opera costume, painted by H. Wyatt, and engraved by Simmons; besides this, (passing over the other illustrations, too common-place to justify even a mention of them,) we may notice, Bonington's 'Drowned Fisherman,' and Hancock's 'Squire's Bargain,' a capital design, and the 'Bohemian Mother,' after Von Holst, in which we find something to admire, though it is not free from affectation, and we must then come to the prose and the verse of the book. Miss Mitford's 'Hunting Scene,' we are almost sure has been published before, and Hogg's 'Morning Hymn,'

† A translator of the Latin Life of St. Helena, has rendered "Invento vero crucis," the invention of the true cross. He was nearer truth than he intended.

† Persepolis. ‡ Palmyra.
* The Thunderer.

§ The ancient Sebaste.
|| See *Athenæum*, No. 331.

if not a literal transcript, is, at best, an almost verbal repetition of his

Blessed be thy name for ever!

The letter-press has, however, been supplied by well-known hands: of the tales, we prefer Mr. Carne's 'Castle Freene,' and Mrs. Hall's 'Drowned Fisherman.' Mr. Kerrich's account of the Island of Jerbi, and the tower of human heads, is curious, and the other prose articles are varied and readable. The poetry is something more: the author of 'Selwyn' has contributed a fantastic legend, called 'Ludlam's Hohle;' the Corn Law Rhymers, some of his powerful, but not his best verse; and Miss Landon's 'Hermit's Grave' is a sweet poem. We at first thought of extracting the latter, but shall content ourselves with a shorter specimen.

A Complaint for the Decay of Fancy.

BY THE AUTHOR OF 'LIVES OF THE SACRED POETS.'

May-time yet hath hardly flown,
Wilt thou leave me all alone,
Never, never more to spread
Thy purple pinions o'er my head,
Singing sweetly by my bed,
When moonlight walketh on the sea,
Soft enchantress, Fantasy!
Open, sweet, thine eyes divine,
Breathe, beloved, into mine.
No more unto my couch of leaves
Comes pleasant sleep by gladness led,
Unbinding all its fragrant sheaves
Of dreams, a pillow for my head.
Dear charmer of the spirit, Time
No more of Poet's lore doth speak.
Thy feet have long forgot their chime,
The rose hath long forgot their cheek.
No more at sunset, Peace and Glee,
Meek graces of the bosom, wait
To lead thy steps with melody,
Through Beauty's golden gate.
For Hope, life's bird of Paradise,
Above my head has ceased to sing:
The song hath faded from her throat,
The colour from her wing.

We must now address ourselves to a stranger that has flown to our shores, from the other side of the Atlantic—this is

The Token.—The proprietors of this Annual fairly and justly pride themselves on producing a volume, without having had recourse to the aid of British artists. The best of the illustrations is Allston's 'Beatrice,' engraved by Cheney; but she is far, very far beneath our idea of the saintly, spiritual beauty, who was the guide and inspiration of the stern poet of the 'Divina Commedia.' The vignette head upon the title-page is sweet and pleasing: for the rest, we will give the artists credit for good intentions, and pass them without further comment. The letter-press by which they are accompanied, calls for no such allowance, being fully equal to the average standard of the annual prose and verse of the old country. Miss Sedgwick, though, like most other excellent writers, her forte is not the short story, has given us a pleasant New Year's tale—Miss Leslie, a sketch of a broken-down family, in which are some touches of that quiet humour, which always makes her writings pleasant. Connected with these, we have two stories of darker colour, 'The Wedding Knell,' and the 'Minister's Black Veil,' each of which has singularity enough to recommend it to the reader. The sketch from which we shall make our extract, gives us a picturesque group of our old friends the Cavaliers and the Pilgrims, with (for once) a change in their characters; the latter being the aggressors, and waging war against that gay centre of English sports, 'The May-pole of Merry

Mount.' Here it flaunts in all its glory, though planted in the strange soil of New England:

"Never had the May-pole been so gaily decked as at sunset on mid-summer eve. This venerated emblem was a pine tree, which had preserved the slender race of youth, while it equalled the loftiest height of the old wood monarchs. From its top streamed a silken banner, colored like the rainbow. Down nearly to the ground the pole was dressed with birchen boughs, and others of the liveliest green, and some with silvery leaves, fastened by ribbons that fluttered in fantastic knots of twenty different colors, but no sad ones. Garden flowers, and blossoms of the wilderness, laughed gladly forth amid the verdure, so fresh and dewy, that they must have grown by magic on that happy pine tree. Where this green and flowery splendor terminated, the shaft of the May-pole was stained with the seven brilliant hues of the banner at its top. On the lowest green bough hung an abundant wreath of roses, some that had been gathered in the sunniest spots of the forest, and others, of still richer blush, which the colonists had reared from English seed. Oh, people of the Golden Age, the chief of your husbandry was to raise flowers!"

The company that frolicked round this dear symbol of the gleeful old times, was such as might be expected; among them were a pair of newly-wedded lovers:—

"Unfortunately, there were men in the new world, of a sterner faith than these May-pole worshippers. Not far from Merry Mount was a settlement of Puritans, most dismal wretches, who said their prayers before daylight, and then wrought in the forest or the corn-field, till evening made it prayer-time again. Their weapons were always at hand, to shoot down the straggling savage. When they met in conclave, it was never to keep up the old English mirth, but to hear sermons three hours long, or to proclaim bounties on the heads of wolves and the scalps of Indians. Their festivals were fast-days, and their chief pastime the singing of psalms. Woe to youth or maiden, who did but dream of a dance!

The selectman nodded to the constable; and there sat the light-heeled reprobate in the stocks; or if he danced, it was round the whipping-post, which might be termed the Puritan May-pole.

"A party of these grim Puritans, toiling through the difficult woods, each with a horse-load of iron armor to burthen his footsteps, would sometimes draw near the sunny precincts of Merry Mount. There were the silken colonists, sporting round their May-pole; perhaps teaching a bear to dance, or striving to communicate their mirth to the grave Indian; or masquerading in the skins of deer and wolves, which they had hunted for that especial purpose. Often the whole colony were playing at blindman's buff, magistrates and all, with their eyes bandaged, except a single scapegoat, whom the blinded sinners pursued by the tinkling of the bells at his garments. In their quietest times, they sang ballads and told tales, for the edification of their pious visitors; or perplexed them with juggling tricks; or grinned at them through horse-collars; and when sport itself grew wearisome, they made game of their own stupidity, and began a yawning match. At the very least of these enormities, the men of iron shook their heads and frowned so darkly, that the revellers looked up, imagining that a momentary cloud had overcast the sunshine, which was to be perpetual there. On the other hand, the Puritans affirmed, that, when a psalm was pealing from their place of worship, the echo, which the forest sent them back, seemed often like the chorus of a jolly catch, closing with a roar of laughter. Who but the fiend, and his fond slaves, the crew of Merry Mount, had thus disturbed them? In due time, a feud arose, stern and bitter on one side, and as serious on the other as anything could be, among such light spirits as had sworn allegiance to the May-pole.

The future complexion of New England was involved in this important quarrel. Should the grisly saints establish their jurisdiction over the gay sinners, then would their spirits darken all the climate, and make it a land of clouded visages, of hard toil, of sermon and psalm, for ever. But should the banner-staff of Merry Mount be fortunate, sunshine would break upon the hills, and flowers would beautify the forest, and late posterity do homage to the May-pole! * * *

"Yes: with the setting sun, the last day of mirth had passed from Merry Mount. The ring of gay masquers was disordered and broken; the stag lowered his antlers in dismay; the wolf grew weaker than a lamb; the bells of the morrice dancers tinkled with tremulous affright. The Puritans had played a characteristic part in the May-pole mummeries. Their darksome figures were intermixed with the wild shapes of their foes, and made the scene a picture of the moment, when waking thoughts start up amid the scattered fantasies of a dream. The leader of the hostile party stood in the centre of the circle, while the rout of monsters covered around him, like evil spirits in the presence of a dread magician. No fantastic foolery could look him in the face. So stern was the energy of his aspect, that the whole man, visage, frame, and soul, seemed wrought of iron, gifted with life and thought, yet all of one substance with his head-piece and breast-plate. It was the Puritan of Puritans; it was Endicott himself!

"Stand off, priest of Baal!" said he, with a grim frown, and laying no reverent hand upon the surplice. 'I know thee, Claxton! Thou art the man, who couldst not abide the rule even of thine own corrupted church, and hast come hither to preach iniquity, and to give example of it in thy life. But now shall it be seen that the Lord hath sanctified this wilderness for his peculiar people. Woe unto them that would defile it! And first for this flower-decked abomination, the altar of thy worship!"

"And with his keen sword, Endicott assailed the hallowed May-pole. Nor long did it resist his arm. It groaned with a dismal sound; it showered leaves and rose-buds upon the remorseless enthusiast; and finally, with all its green boughs, and ribbons, and flowers, symbolic of departed pleasures, down fell the banner staff of Merry Mount. As it sank, tradition says, the evening sky grew darker, and the woods threw forth a more sombre shadow.

"There," cried Endicott, looking triumphantly on his work, 'there lies the only May-pole in New England! The thought is strong within me, that, by its fall, is shadowed forth the fate of light and idle mirth-makers, amongst us and our posterity. Amen, saith John Endicott!"

"Amen!" echoed his followers.

"But the votaries of the May-pole gave one groan for their idol. At the sound, the Puritan leader glanced at the crew of Comus, each a figure of broad mirth, yet, at this moment, strangely expressive of sorrow and dismay.

"Valiant captain," quoth Peter Palfrey, the Ancient of the band, 'what order shall be taken with the prisoners!"

"I thought not to repent me of cutting down a May-pole," replied Endicott, 'yet now I could find in my heart to plant it again, and give each of these bestial pagans one other dance round their idol. It would have served rarely for a whipping-post!"

"But there are pine trees enow," suggested the lieutenant.

"True, good Ancient," said the leader. 'Wherefore, bind the heathen crew, and bestow on them a small matter of stripes apiece, as earnest of our future justice. Set some of the rogues in the stocks to rest themselves, so soon as Providence shall bring us to one of our own well-ordered settlements, where such accommodations may be found. Further penalties, such as

*The breath of the eyes, πνεύματα ὀφθαλμῶν, was a favourite theme with the Grecian Euphuists.

banding and cropping of ears, shall be thought of hereafter.' . . .

"Here be a couple of shining ones," continued Peter Palfrey, pointing his weapon at the Lord and Lady of the May. "They seem to be of high station among these mis-doers. Methinks their dignity will not be fitted with less than a double share of stripes."

"Endicott rested on his sword, and closely surveyed the dress and aspect of the hapless pair. There they stood, pale, downcast, and apprehensive. Yet there was an air of mutual support, and of pure affection, seeking aid and giving it, that showed them to be man and wife, with the sanction of a priest upon their love. The youth, in the peril of the moment, had dropped his gilded staff, and thrown his arm about the Lady of the May, who leaned against his breast, too lightly to burthen him, but with weight enough to express that their destinies were linked together, for good or evil. They looked first at each other, and then into the grim captain's face. There they stood, in the first hour of wedlock, while the idle pleasure, of which their companions were emblems, had given place to the sternest cares of life, personified by the dark Puritans. But never had their youthful beauty seemed so pure and high, as when its glow was chastened by adversity."

"Youth," said Endicott, "ye stand in an evil case, thou and thy maiden wife. Make ready presently; for I am minded that ye shall both have a token to remember your wedding-day!"

"Stern man," exclaimed the May Lord, "how can I move thee! Were the means at hand, I would resist to the death. Being powerless, I entreat! Do with me as thou wilt; but let Edith go untouched!"

"Not so," replied the immitigable zealot. "We are not wont to show an idle courtesy to that sex, which requireth the stricter discipline. What sayest thou, maid? Shall thy silken bridegroom suffer thy share of the penalty, besides his own?"

"Be it death," said Edith, "and lay it all on me!"

"Truly, as Endicott had said, the poor lovers stood in a woeful case. Their foes were triumphant, their friends captive and abused, their home desolate, the benighted wilderness around them, and a rigorous destiny, in the shape of the Puritan leader, their only guide. Yet the deepening twilight could not altogether conceal, that the iron man was softened; he smiled, at the fair spectacle of early love; he almost sighed, for the inevitable blight of early hopes."

"The troubles of life have come hastily on this young couple," observed Endicott. "We will see how they comport themselves under their present trials, ere we burthen them with greater. If, among the spoil, there be any garments of a more decent fashion, let them be put upon this May Lord and his Lady, instead of their glistening vanities. Look to it, some of you."

"And shall not the youth's hair be cut?" asked Peter Palfrey, looking with abhorrence at the love-lock and long glossy curls of the young man."

"Crop it forthwith, and that in the true pumpkin shell fashion," answered the captain. "Then bring them along with us, but more gently than their fellows. There be qualities in the youth, which may make him valiant to fight, and sober to toil, and pious to pray; and in the maiden, that may fit her to become a mother in our Israel, bringing up babes in better nurture than her own hath been. Nor think ye, young ones, that they are the happiest, even in our lifetime of a moment, who misspend it in dancing round a May-pole."

The verse contained in 'The Token' has been contributed by Percival, Mrs. Sigourney, Miss Gould, and others well known among the sons and daughters of American song.

ORIGINAL PAPERS

SKETCHES OF THE LITERATURE OF THE UNITED STATES.

BY THE REV. TIMOTHY FLINT.
(Concluded from p. 819.)

In closing these outlines of American Literature, it will be obvious, that we have touched every point in the briefest possible terms, and have discussed in these narrow limits, subjects which would have required volumes, to have done them any adequate justice. We have indicated, as they appeared to us, some of the obstacles, which account for our want of the sustained efforts and accumulated treasures of a national literature. We deem, that we have produced conclusive evidence,—at least it so seemed to us,—that this deficiency has resulted from other causes, than the want of as much genius, as much talent, as quick perceptions, as much endowment, as high thoughts, as true inspiration, as much capability of progress either in the sciences or the fine arts, as belong to the parent country. Miserable, pinched, and poor-spirited must have been the minds of the Halls, Hamiltons, Fiddlers, *et id omne genus*, who, within the few past years, have travelled in our country, and appear to have taken pleasure, on returning home, in proclaiming us to be a stupid, half savage race, without literature, arts, taste, or even the common comforts of life. How much more natural and amiable, as well as just, would it have been, to have found us, as undeniable offsets from the English stock, at least susceptible of the capabilities of degenerate Englishmen! How much more just would have been the English estimate of us,—how much kinder the feelings, if Britons of something of the endowment, philosophical enlargement, and generosity of mind belonging to such men as Humboldt and Chateaubriand, had travelled among us, and published as much of us as those dwarfish egotists! Never, until really instructed, competent, and philosophical observers survey us, and scan our physical and intellectual condition, with an impartial eye, will the English public be able to strike a fair balance between our merits and defects, improvements and deficiencies.

One thing is certain.—We came fairly by our morbid appetite for coarse politics, and the fierce and miserable intrigue of our political partizan spirit. We came fairly by our inordinate vanity and boastfulness. We came fairly by most of those alleged bad points, which the late English travellers among us have held up to such contempt and ridicule. They are the hereditary legacy transmitted to us by our English forefathers. In fact, the United States are but a second edition of England on a folio instead of a duodecimo sheet.

Vain and boastful as we may be, we have not the ineffable folly to suppose, that we have as yet a literature to compare with that of England. But the people of that country cannot be so blinded by prejudice, as not to comprehend, that, whatever be our deficiencies, we have the inventive boldness, the grasping spirit, the self-respect, the national feeling, the resources of every kind—physical and mental—that constitute all the elements of national greatness. In so brief a political existence, we have spread from the sea to the lakes, and, from the cold shores of the north-east to the orange and cane of the south-west, over which space we have already diffused more than thirteen millions of modified and continental Englishmen. Nor is there another country in the world that contains within itself more ample means of every kind and degree of comfort and improvement, independent of every other one. If the English do not read American books, let them glance at the number and contents of our newspapers and periodicals—let them reason from the innumerable

works that are continually issuing from the American press, without motive of patronage or compensation, with a consciousness in the authors that few among us regard anything but business and politics, and that those few are imbued with an innate prejudice in favour of English literature—works issued from the mere self-impelling love of authorship,—and judge, from these elements, whether we should not make a sufficient amount of books if we had a numerous corps of men of letters, if we had literary capitals, like London and Edinburgh, and a government and individuals able and disposed to bestow upon literature that munificent patronage which, in the more glorious and productive periods of the annals of England, it found in that country.

It would seem as if Englishmen should find it the part of a just and respectable pride, and one which tended to their own self-exaltation, to form of us estimates of kindness and consideration, as of the same family, language, blood, laws, institutions, and intellectual capability with themselves. Be it so or not, the time for juster, if not kinder, thinking will come, when the glory of their prodigious colonial empire, of their military and naval prowess, of their wealth, arts, and even literature, will be merged in the prouder consideration of having given birth to this Anglo-American empire, which, by its unquestioned predominance in every kind of influence, it is not unreasonable to suppose, will ultimately diffuse the language and institutions of England from Greenland to Cape Horn, over half the extent of the globe. To have reared a colonial germ already of such magnificent development in our hemisphere, to be planting another of similar promise in New Holland at the other extremity of the world, and thus to give the language of Shakespeare and Milton the probability of becoming the universal speech of the human race, is glory enough to extinguish the pitiable envy of wishing to depreciate and vilify a younger member of the family, because she has grown up to prosperity and greatness in the forests of the new world.

For us, aspersed by the parent country or not, and estimated according to the representations of Hall, Hamilton, and others of the same school, as we may be, we do not the less feel ourselves bound by a chain of remembrances and associations, stretching across the ocean, and connecting our thoughts and our affections with the green fields, and the ancient altars and hearths of the home of our forefathers. We feel entitled to a claim to come in for our share of the heritage of her glory. We can never forget, that she has already bequeathed us her trial by jury, her laws and institutions, her indomitable independence of character, and the physical and moral temperament which distinguishes us as a people. To attempt to vilify and degrade her national character, would be a suicidal attempt against our own honour. With all her faults and follies, we still love her. Our most cherished reading and remembrance from youth to age, render fatherland to our imaginations the scene of glory, romance, and song. The very writers and politicians among us, who most flippantly assail her reputation, scold and traduce her in the perverted spirit of family quarrel, internally venerate what they abuse. Wherever we affect to lay the scenes of our romances, they are really pictured on the mind's retina in the parks and groves of the earls, and lords, and dukes of Old England, peopled with the dear remembrances of the Amandas and Mortimers, over whose true but wayward loves we wept in our romance days.

If it be true, that the star of empire is one day to ascend the western horizon, it would not be in the pleased and proud spirit, which too often comes over our prophesying orators, that we would pry into the destinies of nations in the

hidden page of the future, to find the glory of England, like that of the other mighty empires of the past, lost in darkness. When assailed, there will always be enough of national honour, and manliness of spirit among us to meet English aggression, as that of any other people, in such generous warfare as ever accompanies true bravery. In arts, inventions, and physical improvements, we have no fear for the honour of American competition. In diplomacy we have always proved her equal. In literature and the true competition of mind, notwithstanding the fearful odds, our inspired minds, elevated and generous as such always are, would put forth their best efforts, and still have the courage to acknowledge and applaud pre-eminence, be it on which side it might. But none but a mind, which we should neither envy nor covet, would exult in anticipating the final eclipse of the glory of that empire which transmitted to us our blood and institutions, our enterprising and adventurous spirit, our love of the ocean-breeze and the mountain-wave, and that character, which has already spread our happy millions over our great country.

There is no such gratification in the wearying sterility and littleness that surround the actual existence which is passing under our eyes, as should interdict their range across the ocean, to the land of our fathers,—the land of the highest attainments in arts, in opulence, in refinement, in literature,—in search of higher models, even if the associations that fashion our views are illusive. Nor would we part with the proud illusion, if such it be, that we are exalted by the ancestry of Hampden, Sydney, and Chatham, Shakespeare, Milton, Newton, Locke, Pope, and Addison; that we speak the language, and inherit the spirit of the patriots and statesmen, poets, and orators, inventors and circumnavigators, merchants, artisans and people, that have concurred, in their various walks, to render English history, notwithstanding its many and deep blots of oppression and blood, the proudest page that has yet been unfolded in the annals of the human race.

COMETS.

HIS Majesty the King of Denmark has been pleased to found a gold medal, of the value of twenty ducats, to be given to the first discoverer of a telescopic comet, subject to the following conditions, which are, in some respects, different from those published in the year 1832.

1. The medal is to be given to the person who may first discover a telescopic comet, (that is, a comet not visible to the naked eye at the time of its discovery) and not of known revolution.

2. The discoverer, if in any part of Europe except Great Britain, must send *immediate* notice to Professor Schumacher, of Altona; and, if in Great Britain, or any other quarter of the globe except Europe, must send *immediate* notice to Francis Bailey, Esq. of Tavistock Place, London.

3. Such notice must be sent by the *first* post after the discovery, and, in case no post should be established in the place, then by the *first* conveyance that presents itself, without waiting for more observations. A strict attention to this condition is absolutely necessary, for, when it is not complied with, the medal will not be awarded at all, if there be only one who has seen the comet; and, where it has been seen by more than one, it will be given to the discoverer next in order of time who does comply with this condition.

4. The first notice should contain, not only the time of the discovery, as nearly as the same can be ascertained, in order to avoid any disputed claims, but also the best possible determination of the position of the comet, and the direction of its course, if these points can (even

approximately) be ascertained from the observations of one night.

5. If the first night's observations are not sufficient to determine all these points with sufficient accuracy, the discoverer must, as soon as he gets a second observation, send *another* communication as above directed, together with a statement of the longitude of the place, if it should not be a known observatory: but the hope of getting a second observation will not be admitted as an excuse for delaying the communication of the first.

6. The medal is to be adjudged twelve months after the discovery of the comet, and no claim can be admitted after that period has elapsed.

7. Professor Schumacher and Mr. F. Bailey are to determine whether a discovery is to be considered as established or not: but, should they differ in opinion, Dr. Olbers, of Bremen, is to decide between them.

N.B. Professor Schumacher and Mr. F. Bailey, have undertaken to communicate to each other, respectively and *immediately*, such information as they may receive relative to the discovery of these comets.

EUPHRATES EXPEDITION.

WE have received the *Malta Gazette* of the 9th of September, and private letters of the 12th, with accounts of the Expedition, but the information they contain is not of a later date than our own, direct from Colonel Chesney, and published in this journal on the 19th of that month, or of our subsequent letters from Aleppo. We regret however to add, that a correspondent of the *Times*, dating from Constantinople, 3rd of October, says, "Colonel Chesney is yet at Bir, gradually recovering from the effects of a *coup de soleil*, which placed his life in the most imminent danger. His negotiation with the Arab wandering tribes has hitherto been highly unsatisfactory. They are decidedly averse to the steam navigation of the Euphrates; and, in fact, to every innovation tending to introduce civilization into the country. They have expressed their determination of impeding the passage of the river by throwing rocks into its bed."

How far the opposition of these Arabs may be part and parcel of the policy of Mehemet Ali, we cannot, of course, determine, but have our suspicions. The difficulties directly interposed by him and his officers heretofore, were most critically mischievous. The Expedition, according to our calculation, was somewhat behind time when it arrived on the coast of Syria, and, by the supineness (to use no harsher term,) of the Syrian authorities, many precious weeks were necessarily lost. Colonel Chesney, indeed, with the accustomed zeal and spirit of a British officer, resolved to accomplish his purpose without their assistance, but this could only be done by enormous exertions—by labouring incessantly night and day through the hottest season of the year, at the certain sacrifice of health, and the risk of life. He succeeded, it is true, and reached Bir on the 18th of July; but, with every confidence in the intelligent officers who accompany the Expedition, we cannot but fear that the Colonel's alarming illness, assuming the report to be true, must have caused further delays, and that it will be difficult, if not impossible, to reconstruct the steam-boats, and proceed down the river to Bus-sora, before the fall of the water. We shall wait anxiously for further information.

OUR WEEKLY GOSSIP ON LITERATURE AND ART.

A few, though but few, announcements have reached us this week. Amongst those of best promise are 'The Despatches and Correspondence of the Marquess Wellesley,' with the letters of Pitt, Canning, Grattan, Lords Grenville, Grey, Castlereagh, &c.; and 'A Campaign with

the Guerillas' during the present War in Spain, by Mr. Henningsen, an English officer who served for eighteen months under Zumalacarraguy. Captain Back's Narrative also is, we hear, to be brought out in a cheaper form, and with greater expedition than the previous Arctic Journals. We must not, however, forget the present while we sound the note of preparation for the coming season; and among the welcome novelties is Mr. Colburn's cheap re-issue of his best novels—each work to be comprised in, at most, six numbers at one shilling each, with a portrait and other plates; such indeed has already been the success of this bold venture, that he is induced to announce at the same price, and for simultaneous publication, 'Las Cases' Memoirs of Napoleon,' to be completed in twenty-four parts. But while we congratulate the spirited publisher on his success, we must remember that the public are indebted for the example, thus worthily followed, to Mr. Bentley, who has published, at an equally low price, an unrivalled series of modern works of fiction. We are not much accustomed to throw away words of courtesy in announcing mere publishing speculations—but from the first issue to the present moment, we have never ceased to recommend *The Standard Novels*, and we are happy to find, because we hope and believe it will be successful, that Mr. Bentley has resolved to try this novel form of publication, and that Cooper's Novels and Bourrienne's Memoirs are about forthwith to appear, in weekly numbers at one shilling each—each novel to be completed in six numbers, and Bourrienne in twenty-four parts.

Our attention has been solicited to a new portable fire-engine, the advantages of which have been strongly urged on us. It is of a form and lightness that one man can carry it on his shoulders to the top of a house; and, we are informed, that when worked by two men, it will discharge about twenty imperial gallons of water per minute to a distance of from sixty to seventy feet horizontally, and full forty-five feet in height. It is constructed either with or without a suction pipe, so that it may, if desired, draw its supply from a distant reservoir or cistern. There can be no doubt that an engine of this nature, which could be brought to bear immediately on the fire, would have great advantages, but, we confess, we do not see how it is to get its supply of water. The projectors say that most modern buildings are furnished with reservoirs or cisterns, but such reservoirs would be found wholly insufficient to afford a supply even for a few seconds; and when the mains are charged, the larger engines would be a thousand times more effective. The prospectus, however, seems to refer its advantages especially to those who reside in the country, and states that it may be used generally as a garden engine.

Messrs. Hart and McClise, and Mr. Cousin, the engraver, have been elected Associates of the Royal Academy.

In our notice of the new piece at the Adelphi, we were about to congratulate Mr. Mathews on the probability that it would bring grist to his mill, when we heard that he was already tired of management, and had let the theatre to the proprietors of the Queen's, who are about to remove there and to bring with them the strength of their present strong company.

SCIENTIFIC AND LITERARY

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—On Wednesday evening the meetings for the season commenced, William Pole, Esq. V.P. took the chair. Several communications, received during the recess, were announced by the Secretary, and referred to their respective committees. The majority appeared to relate to the mechanical branch of the Society's inquiries. Samples of Himalaya rice, Hunial wool, fibre from the pine-apple,

cloth from the fibre of bombax asaphyllum, samples of safflower, and wood of the privet of Nepal, had been sent by the East India company. Some articles of dress, made from the fibre of the lace-bark tree, were also exhibited, and referred to the Committee of Colonies and Trade.

The following is a list of the ILLUSTRATIONS to be given during the session.

- Nov. 10.—On the use of Science in cases of extreme necessity. By Dr. Ritchie.
Dec. 8.—On the application of Machinery to Carving and Sculpture. By Ed. Cowper, Esq.
Jan. 12.—On the construction of Arches without Centering. By M. I. Brunel, Esq.
Feb. 9.—On the manufacture and uses of Papier-Maché. By J. Rofe, Jun. Esq.
Mar. 8.—On recent improvements in the Machinery of Mines. By J. Taylor, Esq.
Apr. 12.—The Antiquarian History of Iron. By the Secretary.
May 10.—The Metallurgical History of Iron. Part I. By the Secretary.
June 14.—On the uses of Caoutchouc. By W. Brockton, Esq.

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY.—Nov. 2.—The Rev. F.W. Hope, F.R.S., &c. President, in the chair. The communications read were as follows:—1. Description of a new genus of Longicorn beetles, from South America, by Professor Reich, of Berlin. 2. Note upon the successful mode of excluding flies from apartments at Trieste, by W. Spence, jun. Esq. 3. Monograph upon the Lamellicorn genus of beetles, *Diphecephala*, from New South Wales, by W. G. R. Waterhouse. 4. Account of the habits of the Corn Weevil, *Calandra granaria*, with a successful method for its destruction, by W. Mills, Esq. F.L.S., &c. 5. Descriptions of some new genera of exotic hemiptera, by the Secretary. 6. Notice of the ravages of the black caterpillar upon the leaves of the turnip in Kent, by W. W. Saunders, Esq. F.L.S., &c. Relative to the last communication Mr. Yarell stated some additional circumstances regarding the destruction of the turnip during the last summer and autumn, by the insects in question, which were the larvæ of a species of Saw-fly (*Tenthredinidæ*) termed by the farmers, "the blacks." In the dry summer of 1818 these insects were equally destructive, and so rapid is the destruction caused by them, that in a couple of days a fine field of turnips is reduced to the mere skeletons of the leaves. Mr. Hope gave an account of some other insects which had this year been equally injurious to the turnip in Shropshire, Herefordshire, and Worcestershire, and suggested several plans for their destruction.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

[Continuation (from p. 305.) of Abstract of Papers, read at the meetings of the Society.]

"On the Volcanic Strata exposed by a Section made on the site of the new Thermal Spring discovered near the town of Torre del Annunziata, in the Bay of Naples; with some remarks on the Gases evolved by this and other Springs connected with the Volcanos of Campania. By Professor Daubeny, M.D.

"The discovery of a spring near Torre del Annunziata having occasioned the removal of a considerable portion of a cliff, a clear section has been exposed of the volcanic strata constituting that part of the base of Vesuvius. The entire height of the cliff is 68 feet, and it presents the following details:

"Vegetable mould, mixed with decomposed lava, 5 to 10 feet.

"Hard, compact, cellular lava, with occasionally considerable cavities, and scoriform at the bottom, 5 feet.

"In one of the cavities of this stratum, Dr. Daubeny states, on the authority of Colonel Robinson, that a considerable quantity of carbonate of magnesia was found; and Dr. Daubeny also found in the same lava a white coating, which appeared to contain a very large proportion of it. The author further states that Colonel

Robinson has since informed him, that in endeavouring to find the origin of the magnesia, he had excavated to the depth of 40 feet, two miles up Vesuvius, in the direction of the spring, and had found large pieces of pumice, the cavities of which were completely filled with carbonate of magnesia.

"Under the bed of lava, the cliff is principally composed of strata of rapilli and scoræ, of various shades of red, grey, and black, sometimes agglutinated by volcanic sand. In the upper portion the beds are blended together, but in the lower they are, for the greater part, tolerably distinct. In the midst of these strata is an irregular bed of compact tuff, terminating abruptly at each extremity; and at a lower level are one or two other beds of similarly constituted tuff, but traceable only for a few feet. These beds of tuff, Dr. Daubeny is of opinion, were formed on dry land, by rain or torrents, as eight or nine feet lower in the cliff, is an admixture of vegetable mould containing stems of reeds, similar to those now growing in the neighbourhood; and about one foot still lower are the roots and part of the trunk of a fir, in an upright position, in the soil in which the tree must have grown. Intermixed with the earth, found at this level, fragments of tiles, a piece of hewn timber, and other traces of human art are said to have been discovered; and at somewhat higher level, a cypress, also in an upright position. In driving a horizontal gallery, at a level nearly 10 feet below that of the fir, vestiges of walls and buildings with fresco paintings, as well as fragments of Roman pottery, and a considerable quantity of cut marble, were discovered, proving the overwhelming, if not of another town, of at least several buildings, by an eruption of Vesuvius. The position of these buildings corresponds with that of a place mentioned under the name of Oplonti in the *Tabula Theodosiana*, and it is remarkable that the large square building represented in that ancient map, opposite to the word Oplonti, indicates in other places a thermal spring, which the recent excavations made in this spot prove to have existed there in the time of the Romans. The catastrophe which overwhelmed the cypress and fir, above alluded to, Dr. Daubeny conceives happened prior to 572, because near Bosce-tre-case, about two miles to the north of Torre del Annunziata, and on the slope of Vesuvius, was lately discovered, a few feet below the surface, a bag of Roman gold coins, evidently almost fresh from the mint, and bearing that date; while he conceives that it may have been effected by the great eruption of 472. Considering, however, that the building underneath must have been overwhelmed by some eruption antecedent to that which covered the trees (these latter appearing to have grown in the very materials which enveloped the former), he is disposed to assign the formation of the beds constituting the lower part of the cliff to the eruption of 79; but he adds, it is remarkable that an event which covered the neighbourhood of Torre del Annunziata to the depth of more than 30 feet, should not have added sensibly to the accumulation of volcanic materials over Pompeii.

"The spring of Torre del Annunziata possesses a temperature of about 87° of Fahrenheit, and, according to the analysis of Professor Ricci of Naples, abounds chiefly in the bicarbonates of soda, magnesia, potash, and lime, with sulphate and muriate of potash, muriate of soda, and muriate of magnesia. The quantity of carbonic acid gas discharged is so great as to maintain the water constantly in a violent ebullition, and to render the air in the stone cylinder through which it escapes unrespirable. The same gas also rises in bubbles through the sea, near the spot; and there are patches of land upon the cliff, upon which, owing to the disengagement of this gas, no plant can be made to grow. Dr. Daubeny then points out

the presence of oxygen and nitrogen gas, not only in the spring of Torre del Annunziata, but in those of St. Lucia in Naples, at the Lago di Amsanti, the Agua Santa on Mount Vultur, and the Lago di Solfatara near Tivoli: the proportion of oxygen varying from 9 to 16 per cent., and of nitrogen from 84 to 91. With reference to the origin of the nitrogen gas of these and other springs, Dr. Daubeny states that he is ready to admit the possibility that it may, in many instances, be separated from the water, and not be derived from an independent source.

"To those, however, who refuse to admit volcanic action to be a process of oxygenation, he says, such a mode of explaining the emission of nitrogen would seem to remove the difficulty only one step further, since it still remains to be shown why spring water, which is in general impregnated more fully with oxygen than nitrogen gas, should, in these cases, disengage chiefly the latter. He also adds, that in none of the warm springs in the neighbourhood of Naples does nitrogen appear to be evolved in any notable quantity; and that the warm springs of Ischia are destitute of all gaseous impregnation: and in conclusion, whilst admitting that the hot springs of Campania furnish no positive confirmation of the connexion between volcanic processes and the evolution of nitrogen, the author contends, on the other hand, that they suggest no facts which can set aside the evidence in favour of that position, which the production of ammonia within the volcano itself appears to furnish."

"On the Appearance of Elevation of Land on the west Coast of South America. By Lieut. Freyer, R.N.

"The localities alluded to in this letter are Arica, lat. 18° 26' south, the Island of San Lorenzo in the Bay of Callao, and Valparaiso.

"Mr. Freyer states, that on his first arrival at Arica he was struck by finding shells, in very great abundance, at considerable heights above the present level of the sea. To the north of the town the coast is low, with a shingly beach and sandy plains, no rock being exposed; but he here found shells of existing species ten or twelve feet above high-water mark. On the south are interesting sections, consisting of innumerable thin beds of red sandstone and gypsum, resting upon shale, in which fragments of fossil shells were noticed. The bold promontory called the Morro of Arica is formed by the dislocation and elevation of this sandstone to the height of about 400 feet, by a mass of basalt, porphyry, and pitchstone, which pass insensibly into each other. Near the summit of the Morro the sandstone contains layers of a salt, consisting of chlorine 31.6, sodium 31.6, sulphuric acid 14.0, lime 9.45, potash and magnesia 9.0, insoluble (silice) 4.0. South of the Morro the sandstone and gypsum beds have a small southerly dip, and form indistinct terraces towards the shore. On these terraces, wherever the rock is exposed, Balani and encrusting Millepora are found. At the height of about twenty or thirty feet above the sea they are as abundant, and almost as perfect, as on the shore; upwards of fifty feet they still occur, but abraded by the sand constantly blowing over them; and there are traces of them at still greater heights. In the island of San Lorenzo in the Bay of Callao, Mr. Freyer found, at considerable heights, Concholepas, Pecten purpureus, Sigaretus concaus, with other shells, in great abundance, and retaining their colour almost as freshly as those living in the adjacent sea. Mr. Freyer states that he did not visit Concepcion, but that he had seen cargoes of the lime made from the shells found at great heights in its neighbourhood.

"With respect to Valparaiso he regrets he did not more attentively examine the neighbourhood; but he says, that to the east of the town

†The author states that this analysis was made by his friend Major Emmett, R.E.

the shelly beach is now far above the reach of the tides, and that rocks were pointed out to him which he was assured were under water previously to the earthquake of 1822."

"Description of a Bed of recent Marine Shells near Elie, on the Southern Coast of Fifeshire. By William John Hamilton, Esq."

"The author commences his memoir by describing the geological structure of the neighbourhood of Elie, a small fishing-town about eighteen miles north-east from Edinburgh. The promontories which form the two extremities of the bay of Elie, consist of amygdaloid and basalt, the latter exhibiting sometimes a columnar structure. Between these headlands the beach is low, and composed of alternating, thin beds of sandstone and shale, with occasionally seams of coal and strata of limestone, the whole belonging to a carboniferous system, and inclined at high angles in different directions, and without any regularity. Basalt occurs in numerous places, extending in long reefs far into the sea; the beds of sandstone and shale dipping from them on both sides; but at one point in the western part of the bay the strata are said to dip under the basalt.

"About two miles to the eastward of Elie is a small promontory, near the extremity of which is situated the bed of marine shells. The extent of the deposit across the promontory does not exceed eighty yards; but its range inland could not be ascertained. The bed rests unconformably upon strata of sandstone and shale containing masses of ironstone, and consists principally of coarse sand, with rounded fragments of the sandstone and ironstone. The shells are sometimes imbedded in clay, but are more frequently scattered irregularly through the deposit, and belong, without exception, to existing species. The point at which they were first noticed, is about five feet above high-water mark, and the shells were very much broken. As the bed gradually rose towards the north-east, they were more numerous, and better preserved; the greatest height at which they were noticed, by the author, being twelve or fourteen feet above the level of high tide, and on the east side of the promontory. The deposit passes upwards into fine sand and comminuted shells. The strata, on the baset edges of which the shelly bed rests, Mr. Hamilton conceives were thrown into their highly inclined position by the agency of the neighbouring trap, and before the accumulation of the gravel and sand; but that in consequence of the angle presented by the latter, and the distribution of their component materials, a subsequent elevatory movement has taken place, to which he ascribes the difference of level between the deposit and the present shore."

"Observations on the Diluvium of the vicinity of Finchley, Middlesex. By Edward Spencer, Esq."

"The district occupied by this deposit extends from Muswell Hill to Finchley Common, a distance of about three quarters of a mile: its breadth is about 150 yards, and its average thickness is from 15 to 20 feet. The best point for examining the deposit is at the gravel-pits in the lane leading from Muswell Hill to Colney Hatch. It presents, immediately beneath the vegetable soil, a bed about 14 feet thick, consisting of marl and waterworn fragments of granite, porphyry, micaceous sandstone, mountain limestone, coal, lias, oolite, and chalk, with many of the characteristic fossils of these formations. The most abundant pebbles are lias and chalk; the latter being in so great quantity as to give the whole accumulation a chalky character. Flints are likewise sufficiently numerous to be extracted for repairing the roads.

"This bed is separated by a well-defined line from another of red gravel, about six feet thick, resting upon London clay. It is composed of rounded chalk flints and sands, and saurian vertebræ are occasionally found in it; but no re-

main of Mammalia have been noticed either in it or the superior bed. Mr. Spencer states that there appears to be, in the whole of the deposit, a total absence of the small rounded pebbles of Lickey quartz, which are plentiful on the summits of the neighbouring hills of Highgate and Hampstead; and in conclusion he suggests that the current of water which brought the materials of the upper bed into their present situation flowed from the north."

"Remarks on the Structure of large Mineral Masses, and especially on the Chemical Changes produced in the Aggregation of Stratified Rocks during different periods after their deposition. By the Rev. Adam Sedgwick."

"§ 1. Introduction.

"The first section of the paper is devoted to some general consideration of the changes produced both by igneous and aqueous agents. Changes of the former class may be effected in a comparatively short period, and can sometimes be imitated in a laboratory. But changes of the latter class have often been effected during indefinite periods of time, and under circumstances which admit not of imitation. In such cases it is by observation only, and not by direct experiment, that we can hope to rise to a rational explanation of the phenomena. The author then gives some examples of both kinds of change here considered.

"§ 2. Globular Concretionary Structure.

"The author remarks, that although this kind of structure, as seen in aqueous rocks, can seldom be imitated, yet it may be explained, in most cases, compatibly with the known modes of material action, and the phenomena may be correctly classified. He then proceeds to give examples of the structure in question.

"1. Chalk Flints.—They are posterior to the existence of the beds in which they are found. The free siliceous matter of the formation has not been uniformly diffused, but accumulated in distinct concretions; and therefore illustrates the principle contended for in the paper.

"2. Globular Calciferous Grit, &c.—The author dwells at considerable length on the internal structure of calciferous grits, and explains their chatoyant lustre by the independent crystallization of carbonate of lime through definite spaces. He then points out several cases of such rocks with a regular spheroidal structure, and with the laminations of original deposit passing, without interruption, through the several spheroids; and he infers from such phenomena that the globular structure was superinduced during the passage of the stratified mass into a solid state.

"3. Globular Magnesian Limestone.—For a detailed account of this structure, he refers to a former memoir in the Society's Transactions, and endeavours to confirm, by new arguments, the conclusion he drew from the phenomena, viz. that all the complicated concretions in the formation of the magnesian limestone, have been produced since the original deposition of the beds.

"4. Rocks of Globular Structure subordinate to the Old Slate Formations of North Wales.—He describes these rocks in considerable detail, and divides them into two classes, both of which he is disposed to arrange among stratified rocks altered by igneous action; and he remarks, that whether this opinion be true or false, the phenomena illustrate a great principle in the segregation of mineral masses.

"5. Nodular Ironstone &c. in Beds of Shale.—These, again, are posterior to the deposition of the beds; for it is shown (especially by some examples derived from Yorkshire,) that the laminations of deposit may be traced through the nodules themselves. In this case the segregation of the nodule has often been occasioned by the presence of an extraneous body. Other examples are given of a similar chemical segrega-

tion from a similar cause; and the section concludes with an enumeration of some appearances exhibited in the mineral structure of petrifactions.

"§ 3. Slaty Structure, Cleavage, &c."

"The subjects introduced in this section of the paper are described in considerable detail. The author first compares the structure of the great Cumbrian zone, of green slate and porphyry, with the structure of the principal chain of North Wales, and shows their perfect analogy. In one respect, however, the two regions are remarkably contrasted. The Cumbrian system has few contortions or undulations, probably in consequence of the great abundance of alternating beds of porphyry; whereas a transverse section through the Welsh chain, exhibits a continued series of longitudinal anticlinal and synclinal lines. He also compares the structure of an upper slaty series in Westmoreland and Lancashire, with a corresponding upper series in North and South Wales, pointing out the circumstances in which they agree and in which they differ.

"In all these regions occur many beds with a slaty cleavage, which is entirely distinguished from a jointed structure by its indefinite subdivision, and it is never found to coincide with the true plane of stratification. These planes of stratification and cleavage sometimes dip to the same point, and sometimes to opposite points of the compass; they are stated to be inclined to each other, sometimes at an angle less than 10°; on an average of an angle of 30° or 40°, and in no instance at 80°. Where the slaty structure is well developed, the strike of the cleavage planes coincides nearly with the strike of the beds; and this important rule holds true in countries where the beds themselves are thrown into a series of anticlinal and synclinal planes. The author adds, that there are regions in North and South Wales, thirty miles in extent, and many miles in breadth, where the cleavage planes (notwithstanding the numberless contortions of the beds) preserve an undeviating direction and dip. He states that in many large slate quarries there is no indication whatsoever of the true bedding; but whenever the slates have a striped structure, the stripes (so well known in the Cumberland and Welsh roofing slates) are parallel to the true beds. To this rule there is no exception in the regions described; and in thousands of instances the stripes are seen to be parallel to the alternating masses of 'coarse greywack,' and to calcareous beds with organic remains.

"The author then describes a flaggy, passing into a finely laminated, structure, parallel to the bedding. He points out the manner of distinguishing this from a true slaty structure, which may readily be done in a quarry, and, generally, even in examining hand specimens.

"In this view, a laminated structure and a slaty structure differ so entirely in their origin, that however nearly they may resemble each other in some instances, they ought never to be confounded under the same name.

"Finally, he distinguishes cleavage planes from the contorted laminae of argillaceous schists; and endeavours to prove, by a long series of sections derived from various parts of North and South Wales, that the introduction of a crystalline cleavage was the last chemical change superinduced on the slaty deposits before they became entirely solid.

"He then speculates on the enormous amount of force necessary to produce a crystalline cleavage through whole mountain chains of mechanical rocks; and supposes it due to an accumulated intensity of crystalline action in a nearly homogeneous mass, every part of which is exposed to the same conditions of aggregation while passing into its ultimate solid form. He illustrates this principle by contrasting the structure of the enormous calcareous deposits of the

Alps with the structure of the thin interrupted limestone formations of England.

"The foliated uneven layers of old, crystalline schists (such as chlorite schist, and mica schist) are briefly noticed, and considered generally to form portions of beds, and not of cleavage planes: but to this rule he gives some remarkable exceptions.

"In all slate rocks, besides the cleavage planes, there are found one or more sets of cross-joints, which often separate the rock into regular rhombohedral solids. Even in hand specimens of such solids we may detect which is the cleavage plane, because, parallel to that plane, (and to that plane only,) the mass admits of indefinite subdivisions. The direction of one set of joints is generally inclined at a great angle to the direction of the beds: and, hence, as the prevailing strike of the slate rocks of England is north-east, we may expect the prevailing strike of one set of joints to be nearly north-west.

"This portion of the paper concludes by recommending a more consistent use of technical language in the description of slate rocks than is commonly met with in the published works on this part of geology.

"§ 4. Jointed Structure.

"Rocks, both aqueous and igneous, have undergone a mechanical tension while passing into a solid form; and, in consequence, many of them have become subdivided by a number of parallel fissures, producing a jointed structure. Jointed pillars of basalt and prismatic granite are considered as examples of this structure. A jointed structure of this kind may in some instances be derived from an original globular structure; but the prismatic and cuboidal blocks of granite are not considered as due to such a cause, and the concentric crusts into which such blocks are found to decompose, are regarded as the natural effects of decomposition on a mass of homogeneous structure. This conclusion is supported by the fact, that artificial pillars of granite (or even of oolitic limestone) sometimes decompose in concentric cylindrical crusts.

"In the preceding cases a jointed structure is, both in its origin and in the mineral phenomena it presents, entirely distinguished from a slaty cleavage. Some granitic rocks (without a vestige of true bedding) have, however, an imperfect cleavage. The granite of St. Austell Moor is described as made up of highly inclined parallel laminations ranging about magnetic east and west; and on some parts of the region, the laminations, on approaching the schistose rocks, are extremely fine, and seem to form a passage between the killas and the granite. Such an appearance is, however, the exception, and not the rule. Again, the prismatic joints of the granite sometimes partially affect the neighbouring slate rocks. But facts like these only prove that the granite and the contiguous schists passed into their ultimate solid state at the same time, and under similar conditions, and throw no difficulties whatever in the way of the igneous theory of granite. Some writers, by confounding such joints with beds of deposit (to which they bear no analogy), have been led into most preposterous conclusions.

"Many of the great parallel veins of St. Austell Moor are described as veins of segregation; yet some of them are metalliferous. Most of the metalliferous veins and cross courses of Cornwall are, however, considered by the author as veins produced by mechanical disruption; but on this hypothesis, the direction of such veins would (in part at least) be affected by the structure and direction of the rock: and from these considerations he thinks that we might (independently of any direct observations) expect in some parts of the county a system of veins running nearly magnetic east and west, and a great system of cross-joints nearly at right angles to that direction.

"Before concluding the paper, he briefly notices the principal directions of the great cross courses and veins traversing the mountain limestone of Derbyshire and Flintshire. The *cross courses* are nearly in the direction of the beds, the *veins* nearly at right angles to them: and these two directions harmonize very exactly with the theory which refers both sets of fractures to a mere mechanical disruption of the rock."

WESTMINSTER MEDICAL SOCIETY.—The first meeting of this Society was held on the 25th ult. at their rooms in the Hunterian Museum, in Windmill Street, Dr. Addison in the chair. Mr. Quain was elected President, and Mr. Thompson Vice President, for the ensuing year.

Mr. Costello exhibited a tumour, which had been removed from a child four months old, by Mr. Renwick, at the Canterbury Hospital, now weighing full two pounds, but at birth not exceeding three ounces. The tumour was congenital, and situated at the very terminus of the spinal column. Successive ligatures were applied by the surgeon for its removal; no excitement or irritation was at first produced, but, at the expiration of the eighth day, symptoms of a very alarming nature presented themselves. On the twenty-second day the tumour separated from its base, the pedicle measuring about two and a half inches in circumference. The solidity of the structure of the tumour attracted much attention. It was almost semi-cartilaginous, and was considered by the members present, so remarkable as to be without parallel. The growth of the tumour, apparently, had absorbed all the nutriment received by the child. The patient not only survived the operation, but is now rapidly improving in health. Several papers were announced by the Secretary to be ready for presentation.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

	Zoological Society	½ p. 8, P.M.
	Royal Medical and Chirurgical Society	½ p. 8, P.M.
TUES.	Society of Arts (Evening Illustrations)	Eight, P.M.
WED.	Society of Arts	½ p. 7, P.M.
THURS.	Royal Society of Literature	Four, P.M.
FRID.	Royal Astronomical Society	Eight, P.M.

MUSIC

SOCIETY OF BRITISH MUSICIANS.—The second season of this establishment commenced on Monday last, with, we are sorry to say it, a very dull concert. The orchestral music, with the exception of Mr. W. S. Bennett's overture to 'Parisina,' was mediocre, and, what was strange, so similar in its character, that we had difficulty in keeping our attention alive: and yet Mr. Mudie's symphony and Mr. McFarren's piano-forte concerto, (very neatly performed by Mr. Holmes,) and Mr. Chubb's overture, contained all of them careful and clever writing—the mechanism of the art; and if the ideas of the composers had kept pace with their skill, we should have had little fault to find. Mr. Bennett's overture was of a far higher order than any of the above; easy, melodious, graceful, and spirited; in short, a composition, and not a mere exercise. If we ever indulged in the folly of prophesying, we should be much tempted to point to him as the future English composer; but we may be disappointed, as the history of music among us might not unaptly be summed up in these words—"Promise unperformed, and power wasted." The vocal music, as far as we heard, was all of it poor and characterless: we did not stay for Mr. Wilson's *grand scena* in the second act. Mrs. Bishop made her first appearance at these concerts, to which she is a most valuable acquisition, and was *enored* in a song of her husband's, which she gave with great grace and delicacy. The other ladies who appeared were, Miss Bruce, Miss Birch, Miss Wag-

staff, and Miss Dickens; the gentlemen, Mr. Stretton, and Mr. Wilson. In the second act, Mr. Harper played a trumpet concerto, by Perry, with his usual success. The band was led by Mori, and though more careful and complete than the orchestra of last season, was still unsteady, and at times coarse.

THEATRICALS

DRURY LANE.

This Evening, and until further notice, *THE SIEGE OF ROCHELLE*; after which *FORGIVE AND FORGET*; with *THE TRAVELLING CARRIAGE*.

COVENT GARDEN.

This Evening, *BORN TO GOOD LUCK* (*O'Raflerty*, Mr. Power); after which *LAW AND LIONS*; with *ROBERT MACAIRE*.

ENGLISH OPERA HOUSE.

This Evening, *WOMAN'S FAITH*; after which *QUITE AT HOME*; with *MY SPOUSE AND I*. On Monday and Tuesday, *WOMAN'S FAITH*; after which *STAGE STRUCK*; with *LOVE'S FRAILTIES*. Wednesday, *THE LORD OF THE MANOR*; after which *THE SCHOOLMASTER AT HOME*. Preceding Mr. D. Bromer's *Magnificent MASQUERADE*.

DRURY LANE.—We have the gratifying duty to perform in supplying an unavoidable omission of last week, by reporting the production at this theatre of a deservedly successful opera, called 'The Siege of Rochelle,' (query, *La Rochelle*), the music by Mr. Balfe. We are not sorry, upon the whole, that our notice has been delayed. Successive audiences have confirmed the justice of the cordial reception which this opera experienced on the first night; and we can now offer to Mr. Balfe the united testimony of thousands, who speak with one voice in favour of his work, whereas, last week, we could only have given him the solitary laudation of a plural individual. Mr. Balfe is a native of Ireland, but he has been for some years pursuing his studies in Italy. He has, we believe, but lately returned to this country, where we hope that the encouragement he has met with will induce him to become a fixture. His style of composition is the modern Italian, which, if not the highest, is, perhaps, the most likely to be generally pleasing to that sort of mixed audience which (particularly with reference to musical knowledge and taste,) an English theatre is sure to present; but while there is quite enough in the music to remind one of the school to which it belongs, there is no servile imitation of any composer, living or dead. So much has been already printed upon the subject, that it is unnecessary for us to enter into a detail which could only be repetition. It is enough to say, that it is pleasing throughout, and in many parts exciting; that we join cordially in the general exultation of the press, at this gratifying exhibition of native talent; and that we recommend all those who have not heard it to hear it immediately, and all those who have heard it to hear it again; for if their tastes be similar to ours, they will like it better on a more intimate acquaintance. Messieurs H. Phillips, Seguin, Giubilei, and Wilson, exert themselves in a most praiseworthy manner to keep up the character this opera has earned; and Miss Shirreff, having evidently caught fire from standing next the blaze of Madame Malibran's talent, burns with a degree of intensity and brilliancy, which, until the same accident happened to Miss E. Romer, we had never witnessed in an English singer. Miss Fanny Healy is improved—something in her singing, but very considerably in her acting. The houses have been unusually good for the time of year, and the talk which Mr. Balfe's opera has made, is causing them to improve every night.

A new comediatta, in one act, called 'Forgive and Forget,' the characters by Messrs. Warde, Bartley, Cooper, and Meadows, Miss Ellen Tree, and Mrs. Yates, was brought out on Saturday last with success.

COVENT GARDEN.—Our notice of 'Paul Clifford'—this 'Beggars' Opera' of genteel life—as it perhaps would have been called had it been

produced at the Surrey Theatre, is also somewhat late. We must say, that we wish it had been produced at the Surrey, because we might then have had the pleasure of praising it as a production well suited to the soil; but, being put forth as a first piece at Covent Garden, it has necessarily to be tried by a higher standard, and we are constrained to give a decided opinion, that it is not calculated to sustain itself in the position which it has been made to assume. This brings us at once to the question of the reduction in the prices of admission; and, as far as our opinion goes, it may be briefly disposed of. We are for low prices against high—as a principle. This paper long since gave proof of being guided by that principle, by reducing its price from eightpence to fourpence; but, we are, in all cases, for the best article in the market, and if we do not get that, then any price is mere waste of money. We must remind the Covent Garden management, that, at the very moment at which we reduced our prices we improved our commodity, both in quantity and quality. It is from a combination of these two circumstances that our extended circulation has arisen; and, if they would arrive at the same end, they must pursue the same road. If Mr. Osbaldiston means to say, that the prices hitherto charged are needlessly high to enable him to produce dramas, old and new, in as good style and with as good effect as to acting, scenery, dresses, and decorations, as they are given at Drury Lane Theatre, then let him at once convince us of that fact, and we shall rejoice to see Mr. Bunn obliged to follow him in lowering his prices, as he has unquestionably preceded and outstripped him in the strength of his company, and the splendour of his stage arrangements; but, if we are merely to have Surrey Theatre pieces, and a Surrey Theatre company, illumined by an occasional star, on the boards which have blazed in the sunshine of Mrs. Siddons and John Kemble—and if, for such exhibitions, we are to pay double the prices at which they were charged over the water, then we say, that, by the new arrangement, the drama is going down instead of coming up, and that the prices of admission are coming up instead of going down. Some of the acting in 'Paul Clifford' was so bad, that we could scarcely believe ourselves in Covent Garden Theatre—we decline the unpleasant task of mentioning names.

OLYMPIC THEATRE.—It has long been determined, that the audiences at this theatre like a laugh: an experiment has now, for the first time, been made upon their disposition to weep. A drama, in one act, called, 'My Daughter,' was given on Thursday, and well received. Nothing can be more mawkish or twaddling than the ultra-morality of this piece—nothing more disgusting than the overstrained and unnatural ferocity of the blind father, who is, as it were, in the plenitude of his impotence, constantly fumbling for a curse upon his daughter, the case against whom rests upon bare suspicion. We protest, as in duty bound, against the plot of this piece, but we have great pleasure in stating, that the offence it contains was greatly mitigated by the sensible and excellent acting of Mr. F. Matthews and Mrs. Hooper. We should recommend Mr. Keeley's part being omitted. He can do nothing with it, and the piece can do without it.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—A new melo-drama, in three acts, by Mr. Oxenford, was represented on Monday last, called, 'The Castilian Noble and the Contrabandista.' It is of that peculiar sort for which this theatre has become celebrated, and it is well calculated to maintain that celebrity. The acting on all hands was good, particularly so on those of Mrs. Keeley and Mr. O. Smith, but the Spanish scenery, painted by Messieurs Pitt, Gordon, &c., from sketches taken on the spot, and kindly furnished by those well-

known artists, Lewis and Roberts, is really beautiful. The third scene, the Tower of Comares, overlooking the city of Grenada, is so good, as to be, of itself, well worth twice the admission money to see.

MISCELLANEA

Mr. James Drummond.—That indefatigable botanist, who has sent home so many interesting plants to the Glasgow Botanic Garden, and to various others, has fallen a victim to the climate of Cuba, in the prime of life, and just as he was on the point of exploring the botanical riches of that portion of the United States, which, next to Texas, held out the best prospect of rewarding his indefatigable exertions, namely, Florida. He has, indeed, accomplished enough, by his zeal and researches, to secure to himself a lasting name throughout the botanical world; yet it is impossible not deeply to regret the loss, both as concerns our favourite science and his friends. —*Gardener's Magazine.*

Western Railway.—The plan which the directors have adopted has been to prepare for completion with the greatest rapidity the portions of the railway between London and Maidenhead, and between Bristol and Bath. From the peculiar facility which the country between London and Maidenhead affords, they anticipate that this portion will be open for the use of the public within twenty months. The line between Bristol and Bath will, the engineers entertain no doubt, be opened by the end of 1837, or early in 1838. Simultaneous operations are proposed to be carried on in other parts of the line, by which it is expected that the communication will be extended to Reading early in 1838, and that the entire line will be completed in 1840. —*Railway Gazette.*

The Island of Pianosa.—This island, situated between Elba and Corsica, belongs to Tuscany, and the Grand Duke has, it appears, lately granted a long lease of an extensive tract of land, belonging to the Crown, to a merchant of Leghorn, who is about to invest a large capital, and introduce Tuscan farmers with their system of agriculture. The island is said to be well wooded and fruitful, but was heretofore so exposed to the incursions of the Barbary pirates, that it was only inhabited by a few fishermen.

Waxing Marble.—[Extract from the Evidence of Mr. John Henry upon the Committee of Arts and Manufactures.]—What means were used to preserve the frieze of the Athenæum and Hyde Park-corner from injury from the atmosphere of London? It was waxed.—Were you the author of that mode? I do not know if any other person had done it, but the first experiment I made was on a piece of polished marble. I took wax, and made a stripe across it with a hair pencil; I contrived to warm it till the marble had absorbed the wax, and left none on the surface. Then I mixed wax with a little turpentine, and I found that it went in further, but I found that the wax went one-sixteenth of an inch into the marble. I put it on the top of the house for one winter. I found in the spring the polish was all off the marble, except where the wax was; that convinced me it must be of some use.—Does it give marble any unpleasant gloss or polish? No; it makes it like the finest preserved old marble that ever was seen.—How do you apply the wax to the marble? We warm the wax; we have the marble warm also; and I take off anything that is upon the stone, and leave nothing but what is within the stone.—You must warm the whole bust or statue? Yes; and have my wax as hot as I can have it; and take the best means to set off the superfluous matter. I take it off with soft cloth, or with cotton.—You also dissolve it in turpentine? Yes; but it goes in so far, the wax, by itself, that it is hardly worth

while: I believe wax is almost indestructible in the open air.—*Mechanics' Mag.*

The Arts and Artists in France.—According to a French scientific publication, there are now in France 82 museums, 160 schools of the fine arts, 2,231 artists, whose names have been made eminent by their works. This number of artists consists of 1,096 painters, 150 sculptors, 113 engravers, 263 architects, and 309 draughtsmen. In Paris itself there are no less than 35 schools of the fine arts, 20 museums, 773 painters, 106 sculptors, 102 engravers, 195 architects, and 209 draughtsmen. Total, 1,385 artists. The departments most remarkable for artists and museums next to that of the Seine, are the Nord, the Gironde, the Rhone, the Lower Seine, and the Seine-et-Oise.

Vegetation.—M. Reum, in a treatise on vegetation, while he enumerates the causes which act upon it, mentions that of minerals. First, he says, that plants never fructify in distilled water; then, that a root which meets with a pebble in its progress under ground, turns itself round it, and is much injured if detached from it; and in Wirtemberg, when a willow is planted, a stone is put in with the slip to make it grow stronger and faster. He adds, that when a tree appears to languish, heaping stones all round it will frequently cause it to recover; and if one of two roots be planted, and charcoal dust put in the hole with it, and the other be inserted with powdered talc round it, the latter will succeed much better than the first. Plants always thrive best in soils oxydized by iron, such as basalt, porphyry, &c.

List of New Books.—The Kitchen Garden, its Arrangement and Cultivation, by G. W. Johnson, 16mo. 3s. 6d.—The Earth; by W. M. Higgins, post 8vo. 9s. 6d.—Sermons, by the late Rev. John Scott, M.A. 8vo. 10s. 6d.—Bickersteth on the Lord's Supper, (Christian Family Library, Vol. XVIII.) 4s. 5s.—The Consolations of Christianity, in four Discourses, by the Rev. W. Hall, 12mo. 3s. 6d.—Chevallier's Sermons, 12mo. 6s.—The Pearl; an American Annual, 1836, 12mo. 12s. embossed.—The Sacred Harp, 2nd Series, new edit. 32mo. 3s. 6d. silk.—The Noble and the Slave, by Miss Jane Strickland, 18mo. 2s. 6d.—Domestic Account Book, 4to. 2s.—Companion to the Lord's Supper, by Miss Graham, 32mo. 1s. 6d. cloth.—Thornton's Family Prayers, 3rd edit. 12mo. 2s.—Sacred Classics, Vol. XXIII. (Taylor's Life of Christ, Vol. II.) 4s. 2s. 6d.—A Treatise on the Law of Convictions, by W. A. Hallon, 12mo. 18s.—A Catechism of Medical Jurisprudence, by S. W. Williams, M.D. 18mo. 2s.—Norman Leslie, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.—Aldine Poets, Vol. XXXV. (Prior, Vol. I.) 4s. 5s.—Treggold on Rail-Roads, new edit. 8vo. 8s.—Smith's Literary Curiosities, 4to. 7s. 6d.—The Book of Gems, royal 8vo. 31s. 6d.; ditto, imperial 8vo. 3l. 3s.—The Vow of the Peacock, by L. E. L. 4s. 10s. 6d.—Old Bachelors, 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s.—Coleridge's Lives of Distinguished Northerners, 8vo. 16s.—The Scriptural Doctrines called Calvinistic, by the Rev. W. J. Emmett, M.A. new edit. 12mo. 2s. 6d.—The Romance of Ancient Egypt, by J. G. Seymer, B.A. 2 vols. post 8vo. 21s.—The History and Description of Fossil Fuel, the Collieries and Coal Trade of Great Britain, by the Author of 'Treatise on Manufactures in Metal,' 8vo. 12s.—Outlines of Irish History, 2nd edit. 12mo. 4s. 6d.—Martin's History of the British Colonies, Vol. V. 8vo. 21s.—Edward's Exercises in Latin Lyrics, 12mo. 3s.—Sacred Minstrelsy, Vol. II. folio, half-d. 21s.—Every Lady her Own House-keeper, 4to. 2s.—Extracts from Bast's Paleographical Commentary, 8vo. 6s.—Out of Town; or the Reces, 3 vols. post 8vo. 31s. 6d.—British Calendar, for 1836, 12mo. 6d.—Flowers of Modern Poetry, British and American, 32mo. 2s. 6d.—Ellis's British Tariff, for 1836, 6s.—Observations on the Action of the Zoon Seed in Dropsical Affections, by R. Pearson, M.D. 8vo. 2s. 6d.—Evolution; or the Power and Operation of Numbers, by Thomas Smith, 8vo. 5s.—Elements of Bed-side Medicine, by J. S. Thornburn, M.D. 8vo. 14s.—St. John in Patmos; or the Last Apostle, a Sacred Poem, by the Rev. W. L. Bowles, 7s. 6d.—The Designs of Sir J. Jones, by W. Kent, 2 vols. large folio, in One, 3l. 3s.—Heeren's Manual of Ancient Geography, 18mo. 2s. 6d.—A Brief Compendium of Arithmetic, by B. Snowden, 12mo. 2s.—Dallanger's Improved Auctioneers' Book, 4to. 2s. 6d.—School Stenography, by Daniel Cadman, 8vo. 4s.

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METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL FOR OCTOBER.
 KEPT BY THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY AT THE APARTMENTS OF
 THE ROYAL SOCIETY, BY ORDER OF THE PRESIDENT AND COUNCIL.

1835. Oct.	9 o'clock, A.M.		3 o'clock, P.M.		Dew Point at 9 A.M. in de- grees of Fahr.	External Thermometer.				Rain, in inches. Read off at 9 A.M.	Direction of the Wind at 9 A.M.	REMARKS.
	Barom.	Attach. Therm.	Barom.	Attach. Therm.		Fahrenheit.		Self-registering.				
						9 A.M.	3 P.M.	Lowest.	Highest.			
T 1	29.241	60.3	29.322	60.7	54	55.5	57.8	52.5	59.2	.044	SSE	{ A.M. Fine—light clouds and wind. P.M. Cloudy—light rain
F 2	29.208	60.4	29.235	62.2	55	58.6	59.5	54.0	62.6	.327	SE var.	and wind. Evening, Overcast—heavy rain with high wind
S 3	29.362	55.5	29.311	58.8	49	51.3	55.7	48.0	57.6	.211	SSE	Overcast—rain and wind. Evening, Fine and clear.
○ 4	29.354	56.6	29.404	57.4	50	52.4	56.7	50.2	57.2	.208	WSW	A.M. Cloudy—lt. fog & wind. P.M. Overcast—lt. rain & wind.
M 5	29.677	56.3	29.740	58.4	50	50.4	58.2	45.3	59.3		WSW	{ A.M. Overcast—light wind. P.M. Cloudy—light wind. Even-
T 6	29.913	57.4	29.922	60.4	51	54.3	59.5	48.2	62.3		SW	ing, Fine and clear.
W 7	30.033	57.3	30.053	59.2	50	51.3	57.4	48.7	57.7		N	{ A.M. Fine—light haze and wind. P.M. Fine—nearly cloud-
T 8	29.944	55.4	29.831	58.8	51	53.9	56.7	49.3	57.0		E	less. Evening, Fine and clear.
F 9	29.465	55.0	29.213	57.2	51	51.8	54.9	48.6	55.6	.061	SSW	{ A.M. Fine and cloudless—light haze and wind. P.M. Cloudy
S 10	29.388	54.7	29.053	56.3	48	48.7	51.6	46.9	52.8	.463	SSW	—light wind.
○ 11	29.344	52.7	29.452	53.0	41	45.7	50.6	40.0	50.3		S	A.M. Thick fog—light wind. P.M. Lightly cloudy.
M 12	29.734	48.0	29.740	50.2	42	48.7	51.3	48.4	54.7		SW	Fine—light clouds and wind. Evening, Cloudy.
T 13	29.780	52.6	29.800	56.6	49	55.6	60.7	47.8	61.7	.166	SW	{ A.M. Lightly overcast—light wind—rain early. P.M. Over-
W 14	30.081	56.7	30.144	57.4	52	53.6	57.3	53.7	56.8		ENE	cast—light rain & wind. Evening, continued rain & wind.
T 15	30.239	56.7	30.233	57.6	51	54.6	57.2	52.8	57.7		NE	A.M. Cloudy—light wind. P.M. Fine—light clouds and wind.
F 16	30.247	54.9	30.208	55.8	49	53.0	55.2	51.6	55.2		E	Cloudy—light brisk wind. Evening, Fine and clear.
S 17	30.150	54.8	30.099	54.5	48	51.6	53.6	50.3	53.2		E	{ Cloudy—thick haze and wind. Evening, Overcast—light
○ 18	30.156	53.6	30.146	53.6	49	49.8	52.8	47.8	52.3		E	steady rain and wind.
M 19	30.130	49.6	30.018	50.6	38	42.2	49.0	39.9	48.6		ESE	{ A.M. Overcast—light fog and wind. P.M. Cloudy—light
T 20	29.758	49.5	29.681	49.7	37	39.2	48.9	35.4	47.9		ESE	clouds.
● W 21	29.633	47.9	29.606	48.8	42	41.3	49.2	38.6	48.6	.116	SSW	A.M. Thick fog. P.M. Fine and cloudless—light wind. Even-
T 22	29.425	47.5	29.352	48.8	42	46.7	51.9	40.2	51.7		E	ing, Cloudy.
F 23	29.507	49.4	29.518	50.2	43	44.8	51.3	41.3	51.6	.285	SW	Thick fog. Evening, Overcast—light rain. [—light clouds.
S 24	29.507	51.0	29.520	52.0	45	49.3	53.4	43.3	53.7	.411	SW	A.M. Fine—lt. clds.—fog & wind. P.M. Fine—lt. clds. & wind.
○ 25	29.564	51.0	29.315	51.3	45	48.5	51.8	44.8	54.7	.043	S	{ A.M. Overcast—very light rain. P.M. Cloudy—light wind.
M 26	29.130	52.8	29.128	53.2	46	46.7	50.7	44.0	51.4	.677	S var.	Evening, Overcast—heavy rain & wind. [continued rain.
T 27	29.540	50.5	29.598	51.2	42	42.6	48.7	39.6	48.4	.038	SW	{ A.M. Clcy.—lt. wind. P.M. Overcast—lt. rain & wind. Ev. Light
W 28	29.819	47.5	29.833	48.6	41	39.6	47.0	35.7	50.2		SW	{ A.M. Fine and cloudless—light haze. P.M. Overcast—light
T 29	29.699	48.4	29.766	50.3	46	51.2	54.4	39.4	55.2	.183	S	wind. Evening, Cloudy—light rain and wind.
F 30	30.059	48.6	22.990	49.0	41	42.4	48.3	39.3	48.9		SE	{ A.M. Fine and cloudless—light haze. P.M. Overcast—light
S 31	29.720	49.7	29.691	50.6	47	50.0	54.3	41.4	54.5	.588	E	—light wind. Evening, Cloudy.
MEANS ..	29.703	53.0	29.675	54.3	46.6	49.2	53.7	45.4	54.5	Sum. 3.821	Mean of Barometer, corrected for Capil- larity and reduced to 32° Fahr.	{ 9 A.M. 3 P.M. 29.645 29.612

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